

HOME GUARD SHOOTING COMPETITION

MAY 11 1942

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Friday

APRIL 3, 1942

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E. W. Tattersall

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BIRD SEED.—Excellent mixture for all small cage birds: 3 lbs. 5/-; 7 lbs. 10/6; 14 lbs. 20/-. Packed free and carriage paid.—G. TELKAMP & SONS, LTD., 144, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

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GARDENING

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TELKAMP'S GRAPEFAT, finest quality granulated peat, adds humus to all soils, also excellent for poultry litter and bedding for beasts. Compressed in bales of approx. 20 bushels. 27/6 per bale. Carriage paid.—G. TELKAMP & SONS, LTD., 147, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS of quality.—W. J. UNWIN, LTD., Seeds, men, Histon, Cambs.

GARDENING

MR. CUTHBERT'S GARDEN TALK

WARSHIP WEEKS

BY a strange coincidence it would appear that WARSHIP WEEKS are reaching their climax at the same time as the SPRING SEED PLANTING programme commences. At first glance there would appear to be no connection between these two major events but actually the two have a similar significance. In the case of Warship Weeks the primary object is National Savings, to provide the wherewithal to build further ships to protect our convoys of food and other vital products. The seed sowing season, on the other hand, symbolizes the effort at home. Every square yard of ground which is planted with food crop is in fact a National Saving, firstly because it relieves our shipping and secondly on the ground of economics because the food so produced costs so little.

CUTHBERT'S FAMOUS VEGETABLE SEEDS are the best that money can buy and incidentally the best value. Over 100 varieties of all types of CUTHBERT'S SEEDS are now on sale at ALL WOOLWORTH STORES. Now is the time to make sure of your requirements.

FOR SMALL GARDENS

Fruit can be grown quite successfully in small gardens. I am offering a quantity of Bush Apple Trees on famous No. 9 Stock which grow very compact but produce prolific crops. Splendid 4-year trees in the popular dessert varieties, COX'S ORANGE, LAXTON'S SUPERB, ELLIOTSON'S ORANGE, BEAUTY OF BATH, LORD LAMBOURNE, 5/6 each, carriage 1/-; 4 for 21/-, carriage paid.

MISCELLANEOUS FRUIT TREES

CHAMPION EATING APPLE. COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN is the favourite dessert variety and here is a collection of 4 fine 3-year-old Bush Apple Trees covered with flower spurs and 1 Bush Apple Tree JAMES GRIEVE for pollinating, 5 Bush Trees in all for 22/-, carriage paid; 5 Collections (25 trees) 45/-, carriage paid.

PLUMS, fine 3-year Half Standards: PURPLE PERSHORE, prolific cropper; VICTORIA, the ever popular; BURBANK'S GIANT, similar to Victoria but later maturing, 5/6 each, 3 for 15/6, carriage 1/-, over 20/-, carriage paid.

ASPBERRY CANES in the popular varieties, LLOYD GEORGE and NORFOLK GIANT, 50 for 12/6, 100 for 20/-.

DON'T FORGET THE FLOWERS

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Cuthbert's Roses are world famous and my collection of the 13 leading bush varieties will be sent for 15/-, carriage paid.

BEAUTIFUL CLUSTER ROSES are becoming increasingly popular, flowering continuously throughout the summer. The six best varieties are ELSE POULSEN, glowing rose pink; KAREN POULSEN, dazzling scarlet; KIRSTEN POULSEN, bright red; SALMON SPRAY, salmon pink; SUPERBA, crimson scarlet; CORAL CLUSTER, delicate coral pink. These are usually priced from 2/- each, but I will send the Collection of 6 for 10/-, carriage paid and include, free of charge, a Bush of the New ORANGE TRIUMPH, dazzling orange scarlet.

"HOME SWEET HOME." This Rose was the sensation of the last Chelsea Show. Fine true double bloom, rose pink in colour and exquisitely perfumed. My price for this, the finest of all Bush Roses, is 6 for 10/6, postage 9d.; 20/- doz., post 1/-.

RAMBLING AND CLIMBING ROSES. Six specially selected Rambling and Climbing Roses, all different, 10/-, carriage paid.

WONDERFUL RUSSELL LIPS. My re-selected and improved varieties contain none of the old type blue shades, only the most vivid and pastel colours are retained. Wonderful scarlets, rich flames, bright yellows, pinks in every shade, in fact a dazzling selection apart from the two-colour effects. Fine plants, 7/6 doz., post 6d.; 3 doz. 20/-, carriage paid.

DELPHINIUMS. One of the most popular herbaceous plants, flowering in tall stately spikes. Cuthbert's famous hybrids, assorted colours, 7/6 doz., post 9d.

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The Nation's Nurseryman since 1797.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued on Inside Back Cover.

PROPERTY LINEAGE PAGE 644.

COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCI. No. 2359.

APRIL 3, 1942

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

In the matter of J. R. Upson, decd.

ON THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE THAMES BETWEEN READING AND OXFORD THE RUSH COURT ESTATE, WALLINGFORD of 1,415 ACRES



RUSH COURT

THE MODERN QUEEN ANNE STYLE RESIDENCE, and with every convenience for comfort, standing high in lovely gardens overlooking the river.

The accommodation includes hall, 4 reception rooms, loggia, 9 principal bedrooms, each with well-fitted bathroom to form complete suites, 5 staff bedrooms with 2 bathrooms, compact offices. Main electricity. Abundant private water supply. Central heating.



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Delightful TERRACED GARDENS, with lawns, tennis courts, tall yew hedges, orchard, landing stage, and boat house. Stabling and garages.

To be offered as Lot 1 with 52, or including Lot 2 with 78 acres, subject to an existing furnished tenancy for the duration of war.

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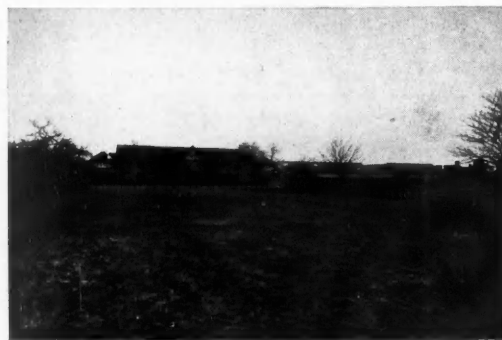
known as

SEVERALLS FARM
(Lot 3), of 493 ACRES
with 9 cottages.

NORTH FARM
(Lot 7), of 527 ACRES

Small secondary residence (Lot 2). Riverside pasture (partly ploughed) of 312 acres (Lot 4), and other cottages.

The farms are in hand and will be sold with vacant possession.



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NORTH FARM



SEVERALLS FARMHOUSE



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with 3 reception, 6 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, electric light

DOUBLE GARAGE,
LODGE AND
BUNGALOW.
TERRACED
GARDEN

**NEARLY
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20 OF WHICH ARE WOODLAND

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MANOR HOUSE TYPE. 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, good offices, cottage, bungalow, double garage, stabling. **12 ACRES.** Electric light, central heating, Aga cooker.

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GEORGIAN HOUSE. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, exceptional offices. Garage for 3 cars. Stabling. **6¼ ACRES.** Main water, electric light, gas, central heating.

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EXCEPTIONAL RESIDENCE with 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, offices, garage. **1 ACRE.** With tennis court, river garden and boat-house. Main water, electric light and gas.

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Built regardless of cost. 10/11 bedrooms, hot and cold running water in all, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, up-to-date offices, servants' hall. Garage for 3 cars. 2 cottages. **15 ACRES.** Complete central heating.

£9,500. HANTS. BEAUTIFUL WINCHFIELD DISTRICT

MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER. 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, compact domestic offices, servants' hall. Garage for 3 cars. Farmery, cottage. **30 ACRES.** Electric light, main water, central heating.

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10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices. Electric light, partial central heating, fitted basins (h. & c.) in some rooms. STABLING, GARAGES, COTTAGE. ATTRACTIVE GARDENS AND GROUNDS, with lawns, orchard, kitchen garden, paddocks, etc.

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Near Golf Course and Bus Service.

**BEAUTIFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE
DATING FROM XIIth CENTURY**

12-13 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, hall and 4 reception rooms.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

**TO BE LET FURNISHED
FOR DURATION OF WAR OR ONE YEAR**

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A WELL-FURNISHED HOUSE

11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, modern domestic quarters. Electric light. Central heating, etc. GARAGE. GARDEN WITH SOME WOODLAND extending to

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TO BE LET AT LOW RENT**

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS STATION 1 MILE

A REGENCY STYLE HOUSE

9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall, 4 reception rooms. MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GARAGE & ROOMS OVER. ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS.

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200 feet up. Near Bus Service.

**AN OLD FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE
COMPLETELY MODERNISED AND IN PERFECT
ORDER.**

6 bedrooms (all with fitted basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Modern domestic offices.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT. TELEPHONE, ETC.

STABLING. GARAGE, BARN, ETC. 2 COTTAGES each with BATHROOM.

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It has been completely renovated and is in first-class order and condition.

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Central heating. Company's electric light and water. Modern drainage. Brick and slated outbuildings, including garages for 3 and stabling. 2 cottages.

THE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS are a delightful setting to the house. Ornamental lawns, tennis lawn with pavilion, rose gardens, productive kitchen garden, orchard, grassland

10 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, with certain Furniture if Desired

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Between Oxford and Aylesbury

A QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE, which has been added to in later years, built of red brick and tile and in first-class order throughout.

It stands on the outskirts of a village, about 300 ft. up on sand and gravel soil, facing south, with fine views of the Chilterns. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating; Co.'s electric light and power; abundant water supply; modern drainage; stabling; garages; 2 superior cottages.

THE GARDEN comprises large lawn for two tennis courts, croquet lawn, kitchen garden, paddocks.

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FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Hunting

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TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

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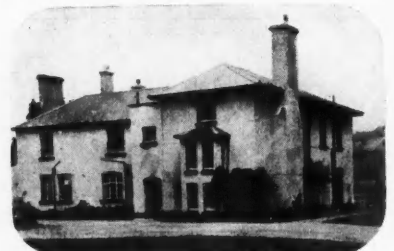
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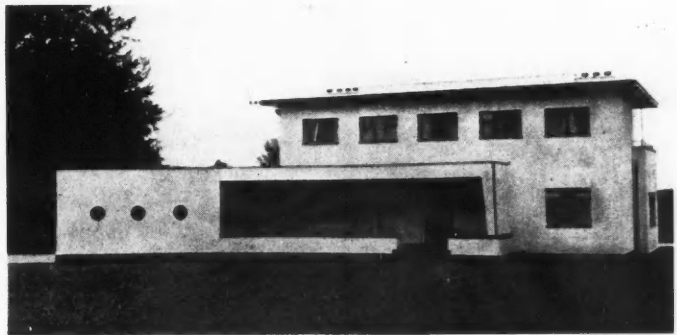
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IN PERFECT ORDER WITH CENTRAL
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ALL PUBLIC SERVICES

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Cost present owner £7,000, but very much less will be accepted.

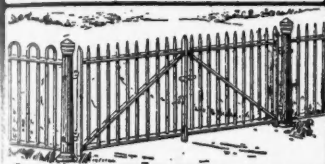
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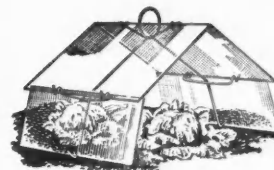
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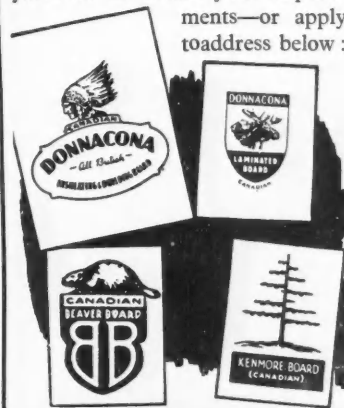
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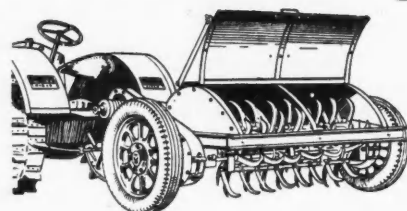
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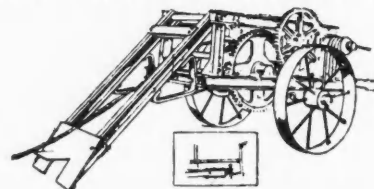
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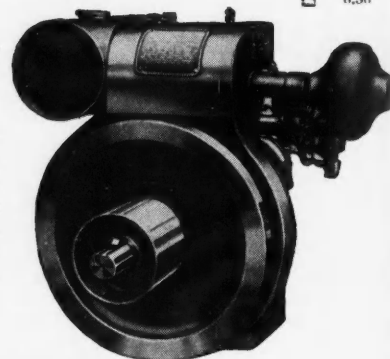
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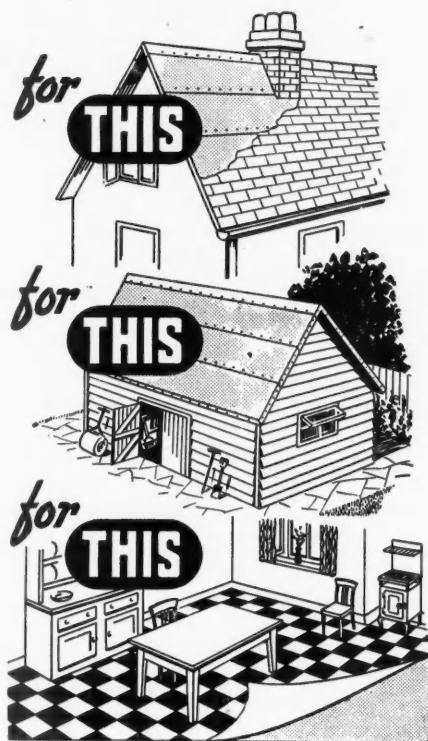
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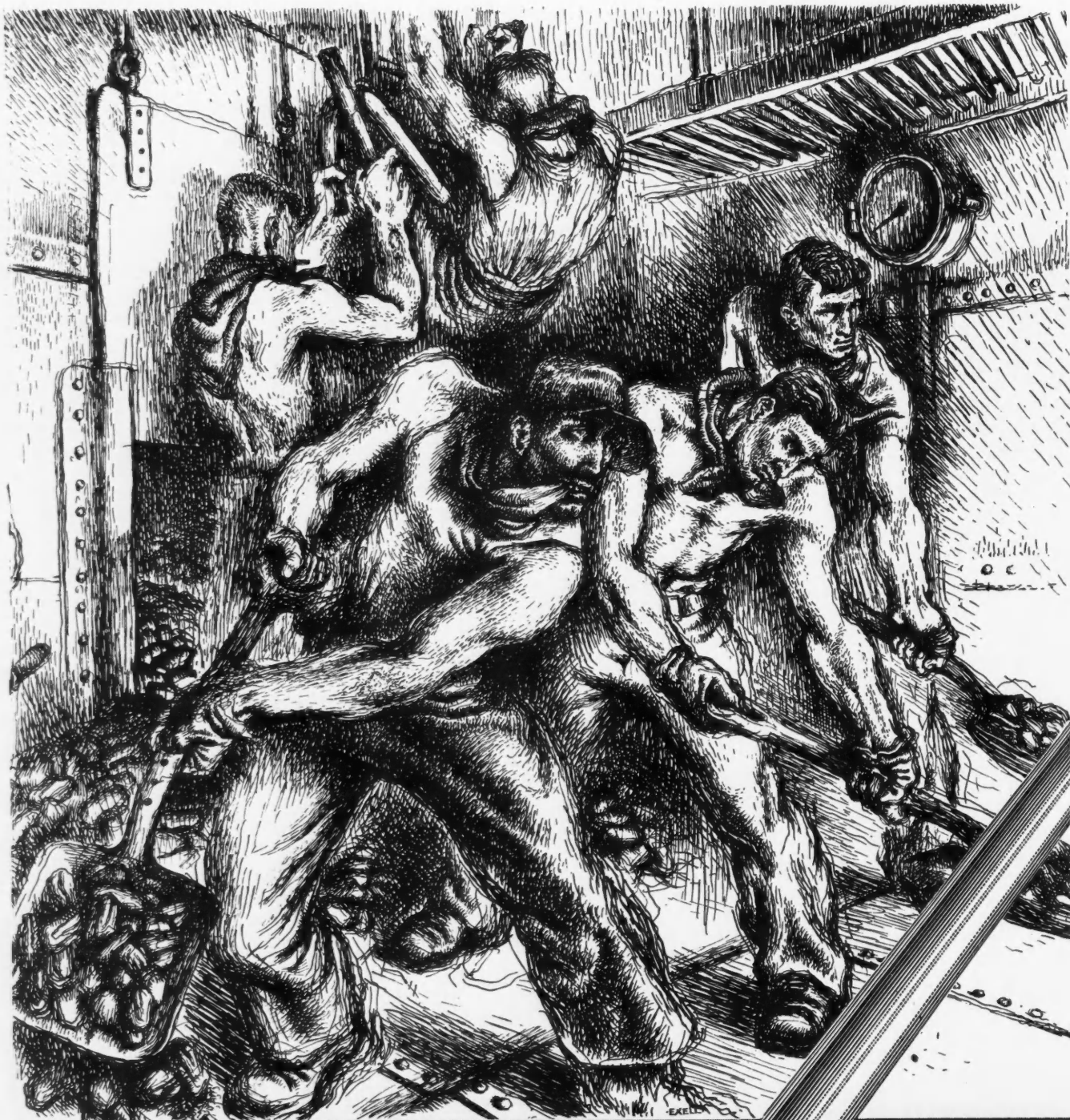
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCI. No. 2359

APRIL 3, 1942



Harris

MRS. CUTHBERT SCOTT

Mrs. Scott is the eldest daughter of Group Captain W. Helmore, R.A.F., of Shotover, Coombe Lane, Kingston; her marriage to Lieutenant Cuthbert Le Messurier Scott, R.N., second son of the late Mr. Albert Scott and of Mrs. Scott of the Pantiles, Hampstead, took place early in March.

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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in COUNTRY LIFE should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

THE GREAT DISPERSAL

THE "Summary Report" of its war-time activities just issued by the Ministry of Health makes it clear that one Department of State at least is rejoicing in being called on to carry out more exactly the functions which its name implies. Since the Ministry was formed it has chiefly been busy with Local Government, with Planning and with Public Health. Now Local Government has become largely autonomous. Planning has been given a Ministry of its own, and Public Health, in a time of acid test, has become its main activity. The report is most heartening. In the third winter of war the health of the people is better, if anything, than in 1939, and far better than could then have been predicted. Detailed statistics of disease prove this in almost every case. Most inspiring of all is the account given of the success of the emergency health services—hospitals, casualty clearing and public shelter services. A most interesting section tells the story of the Evacuation Scheme: its alternate successes and failures as the air war developed so unpredictably, but its constant achievement in a vast dispersal of concentrated populations carried out with efficiency and without damage to either physical or social health. Those whose main care is the countryside believe that in years to come the results of this scattering will be far more vital and beneficial than they now appear to be. Meanwhile, a temporary social revolution has been accomplished. Newcomers uprooted from all their familiar resources of occupation and environment, either as a precaution against known, or in escape from unknown, terrors, have had a new life in the country successfully created for them. The Shakespeare Committee, which visited seventeen counties in Reception Areas, remarked on the many factors which made evacuation "neither a natural nor a popular process." For all these reasons, they went on to say, "this great migration should have been doomed to failure. We were surprised to find that in the great majority of cases it is succeeding."

SHOOTING FOXES

ONE expects odd events in war-time, but one of the most extraordinary must surely have been the occasion when "Croydon officials"—to quote a letter from the Rev. Leslie Weatherhead to the *Daily Telegraph*—"shot 68 foxes which were breeding in a local bird-sanctuary." Aberdare farmers have also killed 17 in one night; which only goes to show how easy it is to keep the ravening fox in his place. "The old argument that fox-hunting is necessary to keep the foxes down is nonsense," says Mr.

Weatherhead, and he adds that "to allow the destruction of poultry at such a time as this, in order to provide sport for the few, seems unworthy of Britain at war." With the best intentions in the world, he seems to have collected all the wrong sorts of information. Here are a few of the facts: Since the war began the scope of fox-hunting has been narrowed to a purely utilitarian basis—packs and mounts have been drastically reduced, and hunting has been cut down to such proportions that talk of providing "sport for the few" is misleading nonsense. If foxes are more troublesome in some counties than in peace-time, the reasons are obvious. But the implied suggestion that the opportunity should be taken to wipe out fox-hunting and rely on *battues* conducted by Mayor and Corporation armed with shot-guns or rifles is, to say the least of it, unpractical. Experience in European countries where the fox is not hunted shows this. Apart from that, the fox is to-day dealt with, for the most part, very efficiently by the county authorities in concert with the local hunts. No M.F.H. has the least objection in times like this to any practical method of keeping down foxes, and many a local "pest officer" of to-day is either a master of hounds or the next thing to it.

FOR EILUNED

LINID brought the spring to me
After winter's bitter weather;
Birds that sing on every tree,
High blue sky and cloud together.
Dusk that lingers lovingly,
Pussy-willow in the hedges;
Linid brought all these to me,
Spring's dear pledges.*

SYLVIA NORTON.

[*Linid, short for Eiluned, an old Welsh name.]

THE NEW LONDON AND THE OLD

ABOUT half London is in such a dilapidated condition as to be beyond reasonable conditions of occupation; not owing to the war, but chiefly because the houses have descended to persons too elderly or impoverished to recondition them. The area involved, which includes much of the charming early nineteenth century middle-class regions, covers some 30 square miles. The whole of it, thinks Professor S. D. Adshead, in a stimulating and sensible little book (*A New England*) should be pulled down and laid out afresh in flats, parks and gardens. He is full of interesting ideas, some new, some of perennial occurrence, such as new streets and bridges, a deep-level tube railway for goods, "one or two purely useless buildings in the parks" to enhance their picturesque effect by contrast. He expects concrete blocks to be the general building material of the future. Yet he emphasises that real progress lies not in indiscriminate destruction in favour of hastily conceived novelties, and that among the dross of old cities are irreplaceable treasures of beauty. One of the most debated problems in reshaping our towns is the method of blending old and new. He favours a bold, if carefully supervised, contrast rather than attempts at harmonising, and if possible their definite separation. This is the method adopted so successfully in many foreign showplaces and notably at Williamsburg, Virginia, on which Mr. Alfred Bossom addressed the Society of Arts recently. Modern planners, he said, can learn a valuable lesson from this wonderful preservation, indeed reconstruction, of an ancient city. To take a hypothetical example, if York were planned to be one of the new manufacturing centres, this must be entirely separate and the old city be preserved intact, with much unsuitable property demolished. Similarly, architecturally planned old residential enclaves such as the best London squares ought to be preserved intact even if all adjoining areas are redeveloped.

APRIL

IN April many moorlands and commons lie blackened by the swarming fires of March, and already some of the New Year's gay lives (snowdrops and aconites, for example) have been completed. But this aspect of April is overlooked in the surge of growth, of new green and gold and white, of fresh foliage, of primroses

and anemones and the lady's smocks or cuckoo flowers that come "when the cuckoo doth begin to sing her pleasant notes." (Old Gerard, by the way, was as vague about the sex of the double-shouting cuckoo as Izaak Walton was about the singing nightingale. To this day many countrymen do not know that the noisy cuckoos are the males, and the more rarely heard "bubblers" the females, nor yet that the cock nightingales, whose night music belongs to May, commonly sing under the sun in the latter half of April.) Next week should not be too soon to listen in the bud-hazed woods for the call of the cuckoo's messenger, the wryneck, which usually anticipates by a few days the herald who announces that summer is a-coming in. And now even the toads feel that the earth is warming for good, the frogs, improvident and promiscuous, sometimes spawn in puddles in a mild February, but the cautious toads make sure of spring before they respond to their inexplicable homing instinct and move to keep rendezvous at the ancestral breeding sites. At the beginning of the month we may recall that the full gamut of April is greater than most people realise. In a normal season the first three weeks might perhaps be headed, Daffodils and Swallows, Primroses and Cuckoos, Cherry Bloom and Nightingales. And with the fourth week we may enjoy the pink foam of the first apple blossom and once again the voice of the Turtle dove may be heard in our land.

MORE PICTURES

WAR has produced some strange transpositions among museums and picture galleries, in the temporary absence or pre-occupation of their male Directors. The National Gallery, consecrated by Charter to "old" masters, has been made a temple of music by Miss Myra Hess, while, below stairs, Miss Lilian Browse has staged a succession of lively exhibitions of very living painters. Following the Nicholson-Yates exhibition will come, on April 1, a display of the Tate Gallery's recent acquisitions, which will be the most varied art collection that London has seen since the war. It will include a remarkable collection of Blake drawings, important French impressionists, and the early Wilson Steer *Beach at Walberswick*, bequeathed by the late Sir Hugh Walpole (illustrated on another page of this issue). Then, who would look to see in the august salons of Stafford House (the London Museum) one of the best chosen of recent collections of Surrealist art? Its sponsors, Miss Eates (of the London Museum) and Miss Ramsden, want to show that the most contemporary of art-forms not only can stand up to a monumental setting but gain from dignified display.

THE OWNERSHIP OF SWANS

THE steady increase of the semi-domesticated, semi-wild, Mute swan in Britain has been alluded to here several times recently. It is protected under Acts of Elizabeth's day and unmarked birds at large about the country are presumed to be the property of the Crown. In ancient times subjects could own swans only by royal licence. The birds of the Vintners Company on the Thames are still an example. There both the Royal and the Vintners' swans are regularly marked. But even in Elizabeth's time some 900 others held similar licences, so that the present unclaimed swans are not necessarily of royal descent. Miss Mary Best pointed out in Correspondence last week that they are multiplying rapidly, that they are quarrelsome, drive away other water fowl and are destructive to young ducks. We can add that many fishermen allege that they destroy fish spawn. In days of old a young swan was considered an excellent dish. Now, in these war days, a cygnet in its first year might meet with equal appreciation, providing as good a meal as a fat goose, that is if the ownership difficulty could be overcome. In connection with this, it is reported in the daily press that when two men were brought before the Meltor Mowbray bench recently charged with "killing two swans, the property of the Crown," the magistrates found the law too ancient and ill-defined to allow them to convict.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES...

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

A CORRESPONDENT has asked the origin of the old army expression, "All Sir Garnet," apparently still current since a young officer in the East recently cabled home news of his safety in that phrase. To the best of my belief the expression dates back to the days of the Mahdi's rebellion in the Sudan, when Sir Garnet Wolseley, in 1884, organised the expedition up the Nile for the relief of Khartoum and the extraction of General Gordon and his small force. It was a most difficult and dangerous undertaking owing to the vast distance to be covered and the construction and maintenance of lengthy communications, and only Wolseley's thorough organisation and insistence on perfection in every small detail enabled him to win through when all previous efforts had failed. It was, however, only a partial success, for he reached Khartoum on January 28, 1885, to discover that the town had been rushed by the Dervishes two days previously and that General Gordon was dead.

EVERY war in which we indulge leads to the coining of some apt expression, and Wolseley's perfect organisation caused the British soldier of those days to allude to anything which was really excellent as being "All Sir Garnet," which somehow is more pleasing to the ears than the present nasal "O.K." "All Sir Garnet," which was contracted eventually to "All Sigarnet," was not used solely to describe military matters, but was employed indiscriminately to indicate that the canteen beer was good, the day's dinner better than usual, and the young woman attractive and indulgent.

The last war was fruitful of catch phrases based on the French and Arabic languages. We are all familiar, for instance, with the "nahpoo" of Flanders and the "Quies Keteer" of the Middle East. In this war the phrase "painting the picture" is most popular with higher ranks if it has not caught on yet with other ranks. In military parlance it means the description given by umpires to operating troops, and the inventor of the expression must be a proud man, as it is now becoming threadbare owing to excessive wear. During the last exercise I attended there were so many white-arm-banded R.A.'s., A.R.A.'s., and amateur British water-colourists hard at work that it was extremely easy for the attackers to locate the dispositions of the defending force.

JUST before the close of the wildfowl season, which has been curtailed, the right sort of weather for our local snipe enticed me out with the gun in search of those wet spots in the meadows where a flowing spring prevents the formation of a thick crust of ice. The very few snipe located, however, heard my approach and got up at 100 yards rise, while the big pack of Brent geese in from the estuary had such efficient observation and listening posts out, that any attempt to deal with them would constitute only a clear demonstration of the meaning of a "wild goose chase."

THE drawback to frosty weather is the noise one makes when walking, with the sharp crackle of breaking ice advertising every step, and in parts the crash of my progress suggested a shop's plate-glass window falling



Robert M. Adam

SPRING ON A LOWLAND FARM IN PEEBLESCHIRE

on to the pavement in response to a bomb explosion. It reminded me of a picture I saw very many years ago of Bibulous Binks returning from fox-hunting in the dusk of evening, having warmed himself up at a wayside inn, after hounds had gone home. Bibulous Binks, with a rich port-wine flush on his face, was sitting loosely in the saddle with the reins slack, and leaving it to the horse to find the way home. Binks was saying to himself: "Damme, no hunting to-morrow. Devilish stiff frost to-night," but the crackling noise he was hearing was caused by the horse walking down a long line of cucumber-frames.

IN connection with wildfowl shooting, I read recently in a book of memoirs a most amusing account of one of those synthetic shoots where in the past mallard were raised in considerable numbers under sitting hens and fed regularly night and morning on the home water. This particular shoot was more artificial than most, for on the day of the big shoot, to ensure a good flight of duck over important guns, the birds had been caught up by the keepers, placed in crates and transported to the spot at which they were to be released to fly down to their feeding spots, where hides for the guns had been constructed.

Zero hour arrived, and the guns peering over their hides looked anxiously to the north for the big skeins of duck that would shortly appear, but nothing happened. Minutes ticked over inexorably, until nearly half an hour had passed without a duck coming within sight. Then, just as the anxious and furious host was about to go up-stream to discover why his instructions had not been carried out, a loud and sustained quacking was heard, and down the bank of the river there came waddling rapidly a long line of "wild" duck hurrying to their evening meal.

AS the eclipse of the moon will be ancient history by the time these Notes appear, I hope that anything I say will not be regarded by the Censor as disclosing weather information likely to be of value to the enemy. So far as this part of the world was concerned, we obtained an excellent view, thanks to a very clear sky with not a hint of ground mist. The Clerk of the Weather must have quite overlooked the fact that a lunar display was featured for the night of March 2.

WITH regard to eclipses, I remember a book of Rider Haggard's where the hero, Allan Quatermain I think, was a captive among savage African tribesmen and awaiting death in a horrible form. He found in his pocket a calendar several years out of date and from this was able to make a guess that there would be a total eclipse of the sun on the day fixed for his execution and that of his party. He banked on his mathematical deductions, though he was far from certain of them, and told the natives that at a certain hour he would blot out the sun. When the assembled savages, armed with stabbing assegais, saw the shadow creep across the sun they realised that their captives were on intimate, "slap-shoulder" terms with the gods, and a last-minute reprieve was ordered.

ALTHOUGH the ancient Egyptians were able to foretell sun and moon eclipses as far back as 2,000 B.C., the Arabs have never really got to like them. They still think there is some dirty work afoot and suspect rather that Saturn, the evil planet, is responsible. Both the sun and the moon are most helpful light producers and the Arabs hate to see any interference with their normal functions. Moreover, there is the worrying thought at the back of their minds that the eclipse might get stuck half-way and become permanent.

I recall once when on camel patrol in Trans-Jordan I noticed in my pocket diary, which, unlike Allan Quatermain's, was the current edition, that a total eclipse of the moon was due that night at 9.15 p.m. sharp, and mentioned casually to my Arab orderly that shortly after 9 p.m. the moon would be blotted out for over an hour. I had forgotten all about this when, as we were seated over the camp fire after the evening meal, we heard shouting and deep-throated "Allahs" from the Sudanese and Arab lines, and looking up saw that a black shadow had crept across the face of a very bright full moon. Then, above the tumult and the shouting, and the thud of drums nearby in the small village of Akaba to ward off the evil eye, I heard my Arab orderly screaming: "By Allah! The Bey is a *nebi* (prophet) indeed. He told me this would happen an hour before the moon rose!"

Thus, at a cost of only 2s., I was put on a social and Sibylline plane among the Arabs of Arabia that I could never have reached by any ordinary means.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN A MALAYAN JUNGLE

21 ELEPHANTS AT A TIME

Written and Illustrated by
THEODORE HUBBACK

[This article was posted to COUNTRY LIFE from Kuala Lipis, Pahang, only a few days before the Japanese invasion of Malaya began. If Mr. Hubback escaped we should be glad to hear from him.—ED.]

NOT very far from my home on the Jelai River in Pahang, in the Federated Malay States, is a well-known salt-lick called Jenut Lanau, *jenut* being the Malay word for salt-lick and *lanau* the name of a small stream that meanders through the clearing in which the lick is situated. This lick is a favourite rendezvous for wild elephants and I have often enjoyed the privilege of watching elephants there. I have actually identified eight tuskers who have from time to time visited the lick, but of course there are many others that I have not seen and I have not included the little ones.

That reminds me of a good story told of a resident in Malaya whose stories, although entertaining, were not meticulously accurate. This man—I will call him B—was a planter who lived some way out of the little town where the government had its headquarters, and where there was a congenial club patronised by all, as is the way in the East. B occasionally came in for an evening "yap" and generally had some good yarn, nearly always new because it would generally be about himself. One evening he came into a well-filled club, obviously bursting to tell us something.

"Well," he said, "I had an adventure last night which will surprise you chaps when



SELADANG, THE WILD CATTLE OF MALAYA, IN A SALT-LICK IN PAHANG

I tell you about it—I've never seen so many wild elephants in my life. I was bicycling down the road to M— just about dusk when a large white elephant came out of the jungle and stepped on to the road about 12 yards from me. I pulled up pretty quickly, I can tell you, and as I stood on the road elephant after elephant came from the jungle on to the road, and after waiting for a few seconds, crossed into the jungle on the other side.

"As you fellows know, there are miles of virgin jungle in the vicinity of M—. Those elephants took three hours to get clear and I counted 63 of them."

None spoke—we knew our prevaricator—but no doubt most of us thought what

wonderful eyesight he had to be able to count elephants in the dark. There the matter might have ended, but a few weeks later B was in the club again and repeated his story. But this time he said he counted only 42 elephants. It must then have crossed his mind that he had told the tale before, so he quickly corrected himself by adding: "Of course, that was not counting the little ones." One of his audience who had heard the yarn the previous time and was a bit tired of B's tall stories, said: "B, to be a good liar you must have a good memory: you haven't."

To return to the salt-lick. A few months ago I was anxious to find out if all was well in Jenut Lanau, but being somewhat under the weather, I sent my Malay camera-man, who is also my head boatman and drives my outboard motor-boat, to make a quick trip up the river to investigate. These licks, if left unvisited for long, are liable to be shot over by poachers, and it is as well to let the fraternity know that an eye is being kept on their movements.

My man's name is Wan Teh. He has worked with me for many years, helps to take photographs of wild life, and is thoroughly familiar with the workings of my cameras and the likely reactions of wild animals when in salt-licks. Of course, there is nothing to it when he is with me, but when he is by himself the natural fear of large wild animals, which is endemic in Malaya, has to be considered. However, as this yarn will show, he has had so much experience when with me that he had no more concern for elephants than I have, and stood up to his job like a man.

Wan Teh left my landing-place at 8 a.m. on the morning of September 3, arriving at the camping site for the salt-lick



TWO DOE SAMBHUR IN A BEAUTIFUL SETTING IN THE MALAYAN JUNGLE

about half-past three in the afternoon. From now on I will let him tell the story as he told it to me when he returned two days later.

"Sir," said Wan Teh, "when I arrived at Kuala Lanau I met two Sakai (an aboriginal tribe), one of which was Grey, who told me that elephants had been trumpeting round the lick for three or four nights and as they had not crossed the river, were probably nearby. After making camp, I went up to the lick and made a rough hide. There was nothing in the lick when I arrived, but I could see that a lot of elephants had been there the previous night. I had Grey and another Sakai with me, as well as one of the Malay boatmen. Shortly before five o'clock I heard an elephant rumble in the jungle on the far side of the lick, and almost at once a very big cow elephant came out of the jungle

surrounding the lick was full of elephants coming and going, but not to the lick, as all the best places were occupied by the five big elephants and one baby, which I could no longer see among the forest of enormous legs.

"I took an entire reel (100 ft.) of cine and 36 stills. There were altogether 21 elephants, seven big cows, seven small tuskers, and seven others, of which four were small calves. It was a wonderful sight."

It must have been. These elephants were within 25 to 35 yards of the cameras. I asked Wan Teh if the Sakai were frightened. He replied that Grey, who has often been on jungle trips with me, was not frightened at all, but that the other fellow, a stranger to him, turned a sickly green colour, and would not even look at the elephants, cowering in a corner shivering with fright, with Grey's

his trunk, bending it into the shape of an inverted question mark and then rubbing the top of his head with the bend.

I developed the stills the day after Wan Teh returned, and although under-exposed, they were exceptionally good for a late afternoon exposure. The cine is perfectly exposed, but there I had a 2 ins. lens with a full aperture of F.1.5, whereas with the other camera I had a 13.5 cm. telephoto lens with a full aperture of F.4.5. I had told Wan Teh to use the 1/20th of a second exposure for the stills because anything slower will not eliminate motion. I think the accompanying pictures show that he made a good job of his photography.

The really lucky coincidence was that Wan Teh went to the lick on the last occasion that these elephants visited it on their



"THE CLEARING WAS FULL OF ELEPHANTS COMING AND GOING"

But all the best places were occupied by these five and a concealed baby. These photographs were taken by a Malay servant of the author's

and walked quickly to the lick. The day was still fine and bright and there was good photographic light.

"The cow immediately started to stir up the mud and as I had already got the cine-camera trained on the spot where I had heard the rumbling, I was able to get going the moment she left the jungle. Shortly after the big cow had got well down to it in the lick a little calf came along, followed by a big cow, obviously the nurse. The three of them got busy and were joined by three more within a minute or two, all coming by the same game-trail.

"The cine had now run down, so I took a few stills with another camera and then, after winding up the cine, started in again on the movie. But by this time the clearing

hand continually soothing him to prevent him running away or screaming.

In the cine film one can actually count 19 elephants, and among them are two somewhat out of the common. One small tusker, not more than 6 ft. in height, I should estimate, had only one tusk. This was probably congenital, because he was too young to have been wounded and thus lost his tusk. The other one, smaller than the single tusker, had a long pair of slender tusks, quite out of proportion to his size. Either he is a stunted elephant or more probably a normal elephant with an abnormal pair of tusks, which will be a magnificent pair in a few years, if he survives. One young tusker gives a good demonstration of how an elephant scratches his head with

rounds. They have a wide beat in the jungle and sometimes do not come near Jenut Lanau for several months. No doubt they visit other licks in the interval. Wan Teh spent the whole of the next day in the lick, but nothing came in at all, and subsequent enquiries showed that he was only just in time.

One wants some luck when photographing wild life in dense jungle, and often one may wait for days and days and get nothing. On that account I was more pleased that Wan Teh had made my most spectacular elephant film when he was working by himself than if I had taken it myself.

In addition to the elephant photograph I send you two others showing two doe sambhur and two wild cattle at another salt lick in Pahang.

“COUNTRY LIFE” MINIATURE-RIFLE COMPETITION FOR THE HOME GUARD, 1942

ARRANGEMENTS for this year's COUNTRY LIFE Miniature Rifle Competition for the Home Guard are announced below. As before, they have been officially approved, and we wish to express our thanks to the War Office for again granting facilities for circulating them to the various Home Guard Headquarters.



THE “COUNTRY LIFE” CHALLENGE TROPHY

A silver cup standing 18½ inches high. It will be retained for twelve months by the battalion providing the winning team

Last year, it may be remembered, 618 landscape targets, each representing a battalion, were submitted in the final stage of the competition, and two teams tied with the maximum possible score. This year we hope to record an even larger entry, and we have no doubt that the general level of shooting, after 12 months' extra training, will be even higher than before.

As each battalion will receive a detailed copy of the conditions through official channels we do not propose to reproduce them here, but will merely describe the main features of the competition and draw attention to one or two changes that have been made in the light of last year's experience.

The Competition will again be organised on a platoon basis and will be divided into two stages. In the first or preliminary stage, regulation “tin-hat” targets will be used, and teams from the platoons in each battalion (each team consisting of eight shooting members and a leader) will compete for the honour of representing the battalion in the final stage. Two reserves should be attached to each team. The preliminary stage may be shot at any time up to the beginning of July and the targets will be judged locally by officers or N.C.Os. appointed by the Officers Commanding. Applications for landscape targets for the final round must be made to COUNTRY

LIFE, on or before Monday, July 13, on the official entry form, which will be issued to Battalion Commanders under War Office arrangements, and the completed targets returned to COUNTRY LIFE not later than Monday, October 5. These will be judged by Mr. F. J. Tucknott, Statistical Officer, Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs.

This year coloured landscape targets will be used. Shooting may take place on any convenient 25-yards range indoor or outdoor. Rifles may be fitted with either open or aperture backsights and any type of foresight. Telescopic sights are, however, forbidden.

The battalion team making the highest score on the landscape target will retain the COUNTRY LIFE Trophy for one year. Medals will also be awarded both to the winners and the runners-up.

We received many enquiries last year about the desirability of Musketry Instructors and other highly skilled shots attaching themselves to particular teams. Provided that they are enrolled as members of the Home Guard they have, of course, every right to compete, but as the main object of the Competition is to stimulate interest in shooting among the rank and file it is hoped that no attempt will be made to “pack” any team with such experts. Regular Army permanent staff instructors are not eligible.

Other enquiries were made concerning the reserves. It should be understood that if any member of a team falls out during the competition, his place must be taken by a reserve. If a leader falls out his place may be taken either by another member of the team or by a reserve.

Finally, we wish to emphasise that the War Office have agreed to publish the full conditions and issue the entry forms through official channels. Questions concerning their non-arrival should therefore not be addressed to us. The publication containing the conditions should not be expected before May 1. Any questions concerning the interpretation of the rules or the judging should be sent to the Editor, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINIATURE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

THIS COUNTRY LIFE Competition, now in its thirty-first year, will take place on the same lines as before. It will be recalled that last year's targets were destroyed in an air raid while they were awaiting adjudication. Every care will be taken this year to ensure their safety.

Two trophies are awarded in the Competition. The Class “A” Cup is open to schools furnishing contingents to the Junior Training Corps consisting of one company and two platoons (or more) of infantry. The Class “B” Cup is open to schools furnishing less than one company and two platoons.

As in previous years, the conditions and entry forms will be sent by post to the schools concerned.



THE CLASS “A” CUP



THE CLASS “B” CUP

A MASTER PAINTER



THE RAINBOW, BY WILSON STEER

It is a strange coincidence that two of the most distinguished English painters, Steer and Sickert, were born in the same year, 1860, and died within a few weeks of each other. Except that both owed a good deal to French impressionism, they had little in common. Steer expressed the English tradition perfectly, while Sickert contributed a more Continental flavour to English painting.

For some years now, Steer had been unable to paint owing to failing eyesight, but pictures by him still appeared regularly at all the leading exhibitions, even at the Academy, which he had shunned since the early days, when he and Sickert "had the honour of being rejected." A staunch supporter of the New English Art Club throughout his career, Steer was the last survivor of the original members of the club. Professor Brown died last year, Tonks in 1937. The generation which arose in the 'eighties and did so much for the development of English painting has now passed away, but their paintings survive and will always occupy an important position in the history of English art.

Few painters have been so entirely absorbed in their art—there is nothing to tell of Steer's life except that he loved painting. He will be remembered above all as a landscape painter and as a typically English landscape painter, following in the footsteps of Constable, Turner and Gainsborough, but with an originality of his own and with the help of technical methods learnt from the French impressionists. Steer's landscapes are singularly joyous. Even when he paints dark clouds and showers there is usually a ray of sunshine somewhere in the distance; they are full of life and sparkle, yet never garish in colour. A beautiful silvery tone prevails in many of his landscapes, and this distinguishes him from some younger painters who do not hesitate to introduce harsh colours in their search for strong effects.

At a time when painting *sur le motif* was the vogue, Steer preferred to paint his pictures in his studio; hence the unfailing harmony of his compositions. The serenity of his subjects recalls the works of his great predecessor, Claude, who like Steer was single-minded in his devotion to painting and worked almost by instinct, untroubled by theoretical problems.

Steer was fond of painting nudes and portraits and occasionally he painted a *genre* subject or a fanciful composition; but his main interest was always for light and colour rather than for form or character. As a water-colourist he is perhaps unrivalled, translating his vision into a technique over which he had absolute mastery, such mastery that it can only be compared with that of Far Eastern painters.

Wilson Steer is fairly well represented in the Tate Gallery. A comprehensive exhibition

of his work was held there in 1929 and two years later he received the O.M. It is unlikely that an adequate memorial exhibition can be arranged during the war, though private collectors, such as Mr. Geoffrey Blackwell, possess some of his finest work.

As a result of his teaching at the Slade School and his close association with other members of the New English Art Club, Steer's work has had a far-reaching influence on English painting. M. C.



BEACH AT WALBERSWICK

Bequeathed to the Tate Gallery by the late Sir Hugh Walpole

English Pottery: New Quests in Old Fields—II

DELFT:

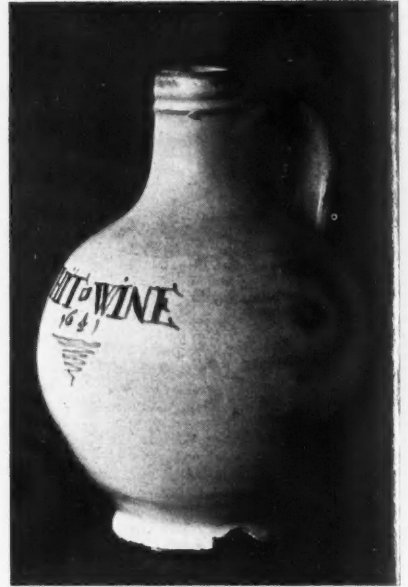
A VANISHED INDUSTRY

By BERNARD RACKHAM



(Left) 1.—MAIOLICA VASE WITH THE ROYAL ARMS IN COLOURS

Netherlandish, about 1500. Found at the Tower of London



(Right) 2.—WINE-BOTTLE, BLUE AND WHITE
Lambeth, dated 1641. Victoria and Albert Museum
(Schreiber Collection)

ENGLISH DELFT is a phrase which, like many another in common use, is inexact, but its meaning is sufficiently understood by collectors and others interested in the development of the potter's craft. It stands for a gay-coloured type of pottery, now no longer made, which, for two centuries or more, was a source of profit to a considerable body of craftsmen, and for a few decades took the lead among home-produced wares for table use. Its attractiveness hardly needs pleading unless among those whose judgment is prejudiced by the greater refinements of porcelain, and it was produced in such quantity that the more ordinary types, at least, are still within the reach of collectors.

How this class of ware came into being, and the reasons why at last it was driven from the market, is a story full of interest. To understand its origin, a glance backward into the Middle Ages is necessary, and to the land in which so much in English art and culture had its source.

In the revival of European culture the lead was given by Italy, and it is not surprising that the earliest substantial advance in the manufacture of pottery took place in the same quarter. The story of the play of influences from the East on the native Italian product is far too complex for discussion here, but in order to understand what came about later in England it is necessary to bear in mind that, about the beginning of the fifteenth century, the Italians learned, as Eastern potters had already, how to improve the surface of their rough earthenware by concealing its buff or red body under a coat of glaze made opaque with oxide of tin; in technical terms, an enamel. This enamelled earthenware has come to be known as maiolica; its importance lay in the fact that it provided a surface for painting on such as had never before been known to potters in Europe. In an age and country in which the painter's art reached a height never surpassed, it is not surprising that the possibilities of the new technique were quickly realised, and painting

became the normal manner of decorating pottery. In little over a century, a complete range of colours was available to the maiolica painters, and the fame of their works spread far and wide.

About 1500 Italian potters began to move beyond the Alps, to carry their art into northern lands. An important centre was established at Antwerp, and the earliest specimens of maiolica to reach England, such as a vase lately found at the Tower of London (Fig. 1), came from kilns in the Netherlands. Later in the sixteenth century, religious persecution drove these Italo-Flemish potters, converts to the Reformed faith, to seek a livelihood elsewhere; most of them fled to Holland, a few came across the North Sea. Among these were Jasper Andries and Jacob Janson. The former was in 1571 at Colchester and later at Norwich; the latter worked in London.

To distinguish with certainty the wares of the immigrant potters from those imported

from Holland will probably never be possible, the recent researches of Dr. F. H. Garner have, however, made it clear that protective measures were against any large influx from abroad, so that presumptions are generally in favour of an English origin. We can claim as undoubtedly local a plate in the London Museum, dated 1601, with an inscription in praise of Queen Elizabeth. After this there is a succession of dated pieces to show what kind of things were being made in early Stuart times by maiolica-potters working in the neighbourhood of London. Such wares are commonly classed as "Lambeth delft." This is a double misnomer, because some of the potteries were in neighbouring parishes, and the kilns of Delft had scarcely begun to put forth the wares of this type which afterwards made its name world-famous.

It is not surprising that maiolica, with its gay colours on a gleaming white ground, should have found a ready welcome in a country in which previously the sombre lead-glazed wares, described in the first article of this series, were the only kind of pottery to be had. To judge from the few survivors, the earliest maiolica to come to England was made to order for the Court or for religious houses. By the beginning of the seventeenth century, the jugs, jars and dishes still extant in quantities show that maiolica was an ordinary market commodity. From this time on there are ample dated pieces to help the collector who is curious about the historical sequence of his finds.

A numerous and very attractive group of these early wares is that of the large platters with a cluster of flowers, particularly tulips, fritillaries and carnations, springing from a vase or growing in a tuft of foliage placed at one point on the circumference of the dish (Fig. 4); the narrow rim generally has a border of slanting blue strokes. The design is not English in origin, but came, like its analogues in needlework of the period, from the Levant, in this case by way of the Netherlands; but it rapidly took on an English character



3.—POSSET-POT WITH CROWN LID, BLUE AND WHITE
Bristol, late seventeenth century. Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge



4.—DISH WITH FLOWERS IN COLOURS; BORDER OF BRUSH-STROKES IN BLUE
Lambeth, about 1650. Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge



5.—DISH, PAINTED IN COLOURS IN PSEUDO-CHINESE STYLE
Lambeth, early eighteenth century. Victoria and Albert Museum

of its own. Platters of this kind were made by the London potters, and also by some of their number who moved westward to establish kilns at Brislington and the neighbouring city of Bristol. They turned out other types of polychrome design too numerous to survey in detail. Many were pictorial, made for special occasions to commemorate some event of the day, or of more general reference such as scenes from the Bible. Most popular were portraits of the sovereign of the time, robed and crowned, on horseback or on foot, and Adam and Eve beside the fateful tree, the latter a theme which can be traced through a century of development till at last it was treated with a degree of almost slapdash stylisation that will find its admirers wherever vigorous handling is prized above accuracy of drawing. The punch-bowl with hunting scenes in blue and white (Fig. 6) is a fairly late example of Lambeth or Bristol ware.

Another class of wares of quite other attractiveness is that of the bottles for the cellar and pots for the apothecary's shelves. Both were commonly made at Lambeth, with an enamel of rich glossy whiteness serving as an excellent foil to the painting, usually severely restrained, in blue (Fig. 2). Many of the wine-bottles, round-bellied and narrow-necked, have no other adornment than the name of their intended contents, and perhaps a date (these range from 1639 for some 30 years); the drug-vases, whether high-footed syrup-pots with handle and spout, or cylindrical jars (both shapes traceable to Italy), as a rule bear only an inscription in a cartouche of scroll outline, with perhaps a pair of birds or cupids, or a bust of Apollo, god of the healing arts.

In the reign of Charles II, although the polychrome platters retained a measure of popularity, those who would be in the fashion favoured a change of style not a little remarkable, because it involved renunciation of the bright old maiolica colours. Blue-and-white was the order of the day, dictated by competition with the porcelain now finding its way from China in

ever-swelling bulk, unimpeded by the Orders in Council which sought to check the illicit import of Dutch and other painted wares from



6.—PUNCH-BOWL, BLUE AND WHITE, WITH HUNT SCENE
Bristol or Lambeth, about 1750. Fitzwilliam Museum

the Continent. (In passing, it may be remarked that the Dutch plates of poor quality sometimes seen with the names of residents in English

To Flower have been attributed plates with a greyish-blue enamel painted on the rim in opaque white

towns doubtless came as gifts from sailors or were ordered privately, not as part of trade consignments.) Themes of decoration tell the same story. For instance, the posset-pots with crown-topped lids and fantastic handles (Fig. 3), which are a feature of the Bristol output about 1700, bear stunted Chinese figures among rocks and plantains taken from the earliest porcelain of the Ch'ing dynasty. The Chinese blue and white and *famille verte* table services of a later stage bred *chinoiserie* of greater freedom, in which red, green, purple and orange begin once more to play their part beside blue (Fig. 5). The customary attribution of most of these wares to Bristol has now to be abandoned in favour of Lambeth, thanks to quite recent discoveries, although about the middle of the eighteenth century some peculiarly dainty drolleries, half Chinese, half bucolic English, remain to the credit of the Bristol potworks of Joseph Flower and others.

Liverpool also had its share, and a large one, in the delft manufacture. The Liverpool potteries seem to have made a speciality—but had no monopoly—of punch-bowls made for sea-captains, with breezy portraits of their ships. And so the story goes on, till the end of the century. Even in 1803 a directory gives us, at Vauxhall: "William Wagstaff, brownstone and delft potter." But maiolica-delft was now expiring as an English genus; its cheerful but plebeian gaieties were driven from the field by more elegant graces—and more hygienic—which must be the subject of other articles.



7.—PLATE WITH FLOWERS IN BLUE, GREEN AND PURPLE
Lambeth, early eighteenth century. Fitzwilliam Museum



8.—PLATE, CHINESE FIGURES IN BLUE, WHITE FLOWERS ON RIM
By Joseph Flower, Bristol. Fitzwilliam Museum

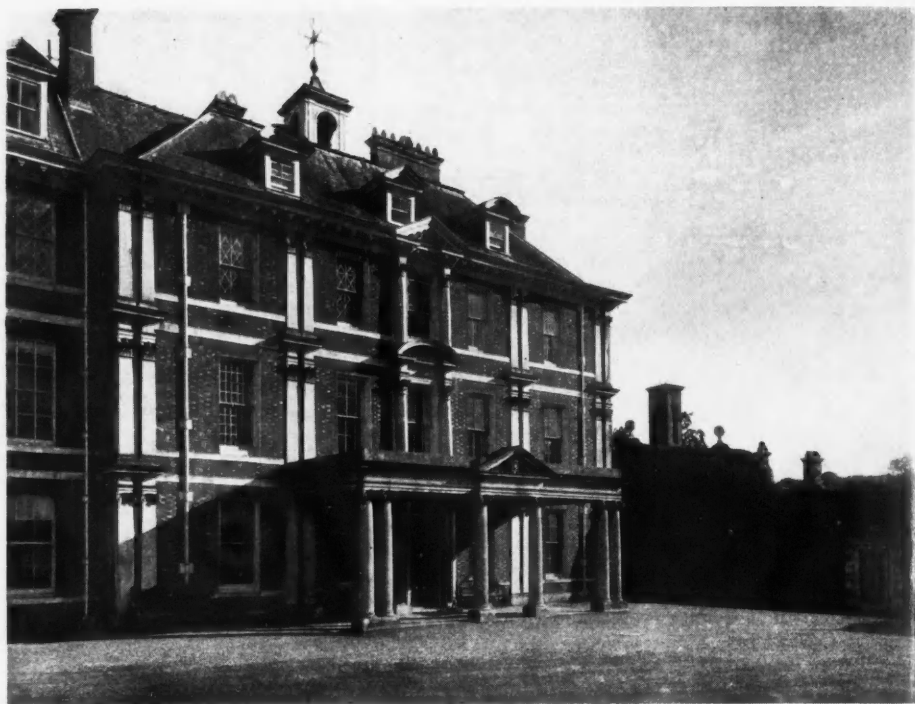
HALL BARN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE—III

THE HOME OF MAJOR-GENERAL THE HON. E. F. LAWSON

Sir Gore Ouseley, responsible for Anglo-Persian relations with Russia during the Napoleonic War, added largely to Hall Barn in 1832. The property was acquired by Sir E. Lawson, later Lord Burnham, in 1882.

THE entry of British and Russian forces into Iran last year was necessitated by strategical circumstances identical with those confronting Sir Gore Ouseley when he was sent as Ambassador to Teheran in 1810. In the united front against Napoleon it was vital, then as now, to safeguard Russia's left flank. Marquess Wellesley, having negotiated from India a Russo-Persian treaty, procured the despatch to Persia, to ensure its observance, of an East India Company officer who had distinguished himself in the Mahratta War a few years previously. Sir Gore Ouseley, born in Dublin in 1770 and created a baronet in 1808, had spent all his life in India but was singularly equipped for the post by having a brother, Sir William, a distinguished Oriental scholar. Together the brothers journeyed to Teheran, and worked there to such good effect that the Tsar, after 1812, revealed that the satisfactory situation in Persia had released a large Russian force in Buonaparte's rear and materially contributed to forcing the invaders' retreat from Moscow. When, at the age of 60, this distinguished public servant retired, he bought the Hall Barn estate of Mr. Harry Edmund Waller, descendant of the Caroline poet and politician who, as we have seen, built Hall Barn soon after 1651 and began to form the gardens, celebrated throughout the eighteenth century.

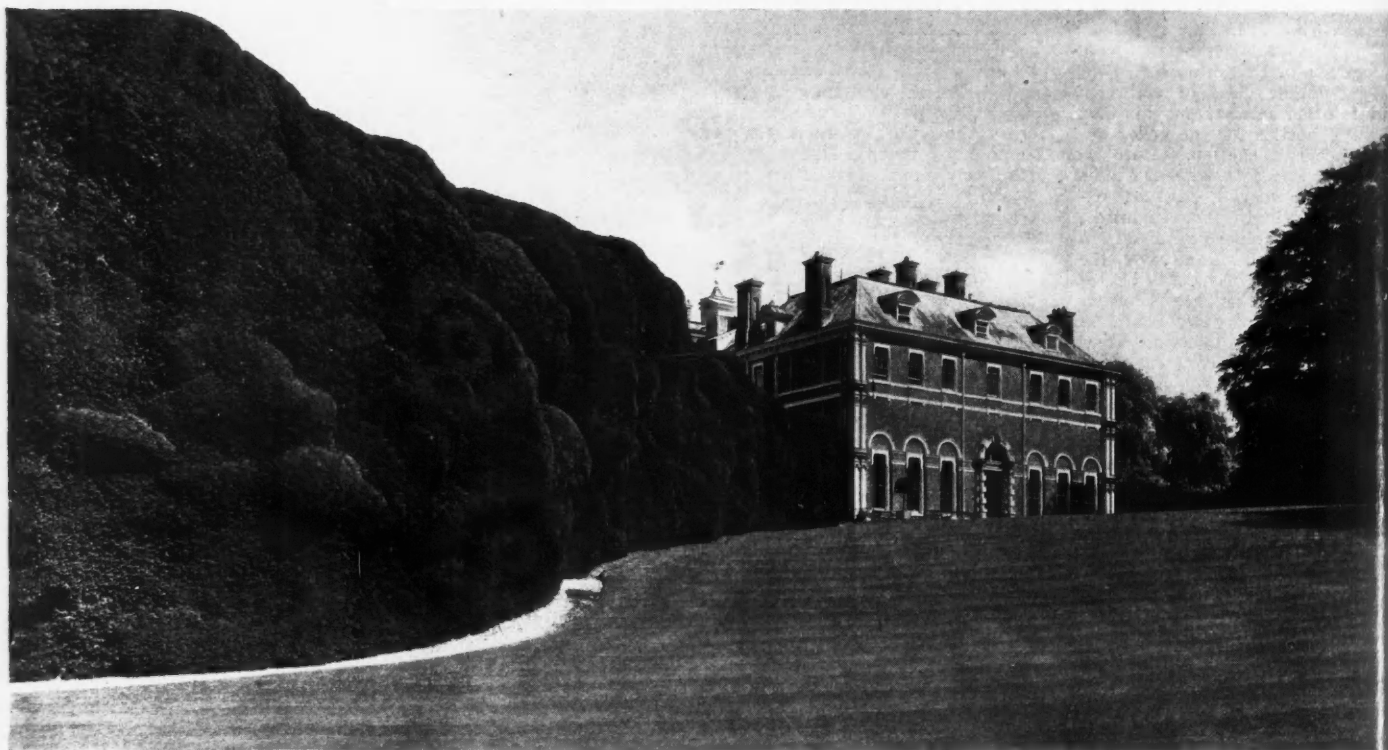
Thus associations were broken going



1.—THE NORTH SIDE OF EDMUND WALLER'S HOUSE, BUILT ABOUT 1651
With the passage to the wing on the right and a portion of Lord Burnham's addition on the left

back to the Civil War period, with Falkland and Hampden, "Saccharissa" Sidney, Bishop Morley, Hobbes and Evelyn. But although the property has again changed hands more recently, Ouseley has left in the house a firm and agreeable imprint of his interesting personality. He found Waller's oblong three-storeyed house, probably built during the Commonwealth, too small (Fig. 1), so added against its southern side a new front, of equal height and greater length (Fig. 2) and of

two instead of three storeys—in order to provide reception rooms on a scale fit to receive Queen Adelaide. But, with a solicitude uncommon at that date, he was careful not only to preserve the original north front, but to repeat its general characteristics, such as the three pairs of superimposed pilasters at the angles, the double string course, the cornice and roof, in the new south elevation, in spite of the different fenestration. Nevertheless, the row of high

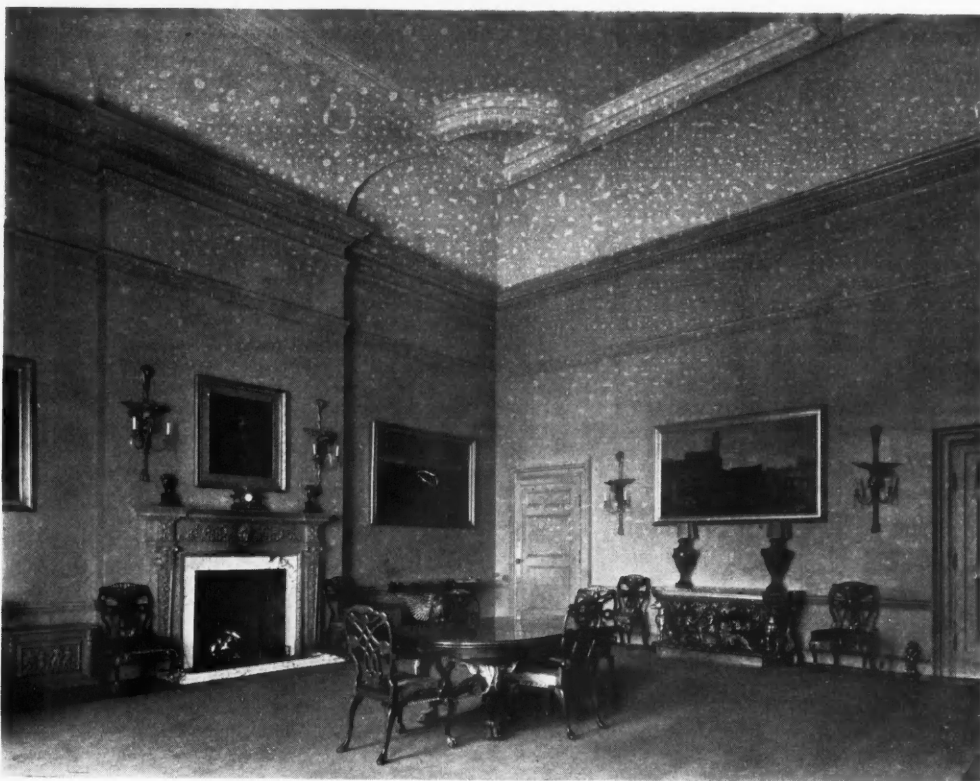


2.—THE SOUTH FRONT FROM THE HEAD OF THE LAKE
Added by Sir Gore Ouseley after 1832

arched windows, with a plain space above, is ingenious rather than completely happy.

The puzzle presented to the stranger by the elevations to-day is complicated by the late Viscount Burnham's having also added to the building with equal solicitude for continuity. As he found it, the house consisted of two fronts of unequal length, leaving a dull and somewhat meaningless re-entrant at the north-east corner, to the left of the Waller block and at the back of Ousely's, which projected further east. This re-entrant Lord Burnham filled in, carrying on Waller's front on the north, and Ousely's on the east. Internally, the latter's levels were repeated, so that the first floor windows on the north front of Lord Burnham's addition are dummies. Care was taken to leave the original front a marked projection, as seen on the left of Fig. 1, in which this last addition is visible on the extreme left side. The *porte cochère*, of course, dates from this phase.

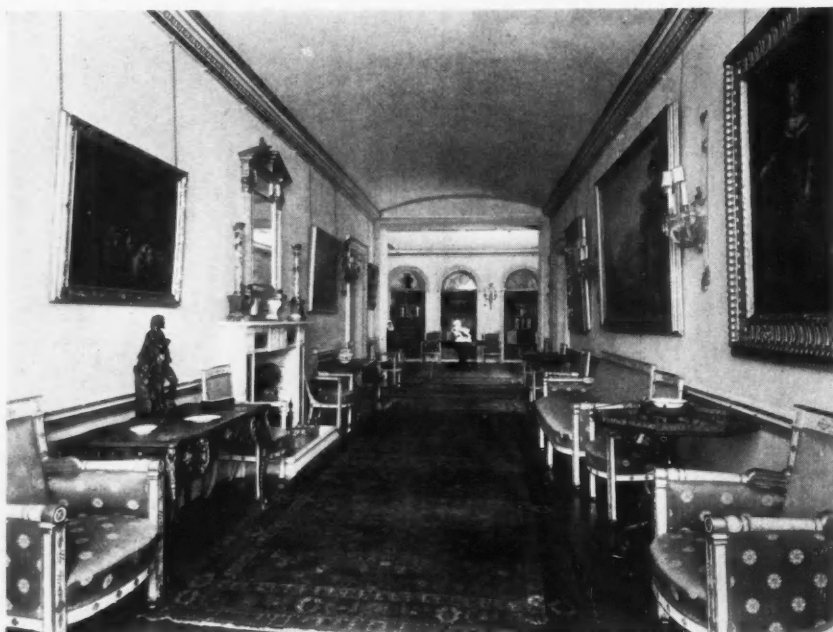
As a consequence of these additions, the plan of the house is somewhat confused, the axis of the two fronts not being the same. The north axis consists of the front door, the entry hall three windows wide, and square top-lit staircase. The south axis, some distance to the east



3.—THE DINING-ROOM, REPRODUCING FEATURES OF COLIN CAMPBELL'S GREAT ROOM OF 1725, in the south front added by Sir Gore Ousely



4.—SIR GORE OUSELY'S LIBRARY, BUILT ROUND A MAGNIFICENT ROYAL PERSIAN CARPET, AFTER 1832
Bird's-eye maple woodwork inlaid with Persian lacquer



5.—THE GALLERY FROM THE GARDEN DOOR OF THE SOUTH FRONT



6.—BIRD'S-EYE MAPLE TABLE INLAID WITH LACQUER, c. 1832



7.—THE LONG PARLOUR IN THE NORTH-WEST WING

of it, is on the garden door in the centre of Ousely's front, which opens into a long, wide gallery (Fig. 5). The axes are connected at right angles by the arcaded ante-room, seen at the far end, which communicates with the entry and staircase halls. The ante-room arches, formerly containing windows, were blinded by the ballroom added by Lord Burnham, to which it now gives convenient access also.

On either side of the south gallery, to which the depressed arching of the ceiling gives quite a Soane-like appearance, are Ousely's two great rooms. That on the east (to the right) is a noble library (Fig. 4). Its proportions, and consequently those of the rest of Ousely's addition, were dictated by the desire to cover its floor with the magnificent Royal Persian carpet that he brought back from his embassy, a present from the Shah. The carpet has a crimson ground with buff lions and traditional ornaments of various colourings. Another unusual Persian importation is narrow strips of lacquer, which are inlaid into the maple-wood surrounds of the book-cases. As the cupboards beneath these and the other woodwork, are also maple, the room has a delightful golden glow to which the cream colouring and gilt mouldings of wall and ceiling further contribute. The general style of the room



8.—MAHOGANY HALL CHAIR, c. 1730

is a scholarly classic, Georgian as to its lofty coved ceiling and rococo chimneypiece, but the entablatures and mouldings are derived from Greek rather than Roman details. The romanticism of early nineteenth-century taste is represented in the picturesque landscapes let into the lunettes of the end wall. The carved wood chimneypiece (Fig. 12) is an unusually rich affair which may have been elsewhere in the house. A drawing made before Ousely's additions and reproduced in Richardson and Eberlein, *The Smaller English House, 1660-1830*, shows a two-storey wing adjoining the east front to the south, evidently of about 1730. It must have been on the site of Ousely's addition, and this chimneypiece may have been contained in one of its rooms. At that period, Harry Waller, who had married a Miss Dolphin Eyles, employed Colin Campbell to design the Great Room at the head of the Lake, and other garden features. Above the fireplace now hangs an important late seventeenth-century view of Windsor, by Dankerts, who painted several royal palaces for Charles II.

The suspicion that some Campbell features, from the Great Room or elsewhere, may have found their way into Ousely's additions is encouraged by the dining-room, on the other side of the gallery (Fig. 3). It is an imposing apartment, 23 ft. high, and

approximates in its area to that of Campbell's room, which was 45 ft. by 30 ft. The simply moulded coved ceiling is copied from it, and its chimneypiece also looks to be of that epoch. Above the latter hangs a contemporary portrait of Edmund Waller. With greyish-green walls, the present furnishing includes an appropriately massive dining suite of 1740 character and William Kent style side tables, their always weighty design perfectly in character in a room of this size, the stately scale of which it emphasises.

Throughout the house, furniture and pictures are both appropriate to their setting and in many cases of importance in themselves. The gallery and ante-room, for instance, contain a large and excellent suite of French Empire chairs and settees, white and gilt, upholstered in rose silk. In the library are pieces *en suite* with the room, made for Sir Gore Ouseley, including



9.—THE PRINCE IMPERIAL IN SILVER

the pedestal table veneered with bird's-eye maple and zebra wood and inlaid with strips of the same lacquer used in the book-cases (Fig. 6). In the entrance hall is a set of mahogany hall chairs (Fig. 8) of William Kent type, about 1730, which, if naive *qua* design, are singularly characteristic of the Palladian period, when everything had to bear some relationship to classical architecture, to the extent of women's dresses, on occasion, incorporating architectural mouldings in their trimmings. There is also a remarkable pair of Italian high-backed armchairs (Fig. 10), of early eighteenth-century date, in which rococo and *chinoiserie* are fantastically combined. The arms and feet, carved as tree branches, and the stretchers simulating twisted twigs of oak, appear to strike a rustic note, at variance with the

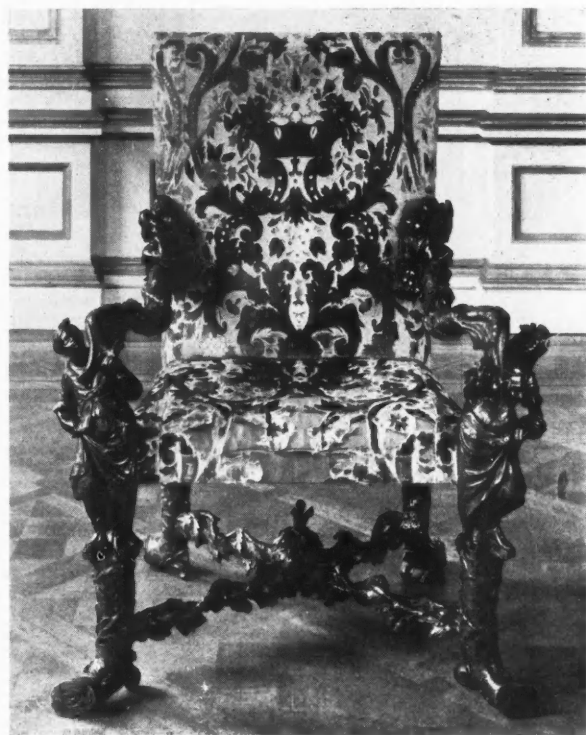
Oriental figures supporting the arms, and diminutive Chinamen or Buddhas perched on the arms and leaning against the back.

Beyond the entry hall a small room retains some of the eighteenth-century Waller decoration (Fig. 11). The overmantel mirror has a view of Westminster Abbey above it. This evidently dates from the time, c. 1730, when Hawksmoor's western towers were being built.

The living-room generally used is a delightful one formed by Lord Burnham in the single low long wing at right angles to the north front. This was added in about 1725, presumably as stables, and is connected to the house by a curved passage. With its row of windows looking east over the lawns and park, its inner wall hung with some excellent pieces of tapestry, and the furniture centred around the fireplace, the Long Parlour, as it is called, is a much more intimate and sociable room than Sir Gore Ouseley's stately apartments or the small, low north-facing rooms remaining in the Waller house. It contains an object of some historic and period interest, a full-length, life-size silver statue of the Prince Imperial, signed and dated 1865 by Jean Baptiste Carpeaux.

Sir Gore Ouseley was succeeded in 1844 by his son, the Rev. Sir Frederick Arthur Gore Ouseley, the prolific composer of church music and Professor of Music at Oxford, 1855. In 1846 he had sold Hall Barn to Mr. John Hargreaves, and in about 1870 it passed to Mr. Allan Morrison.

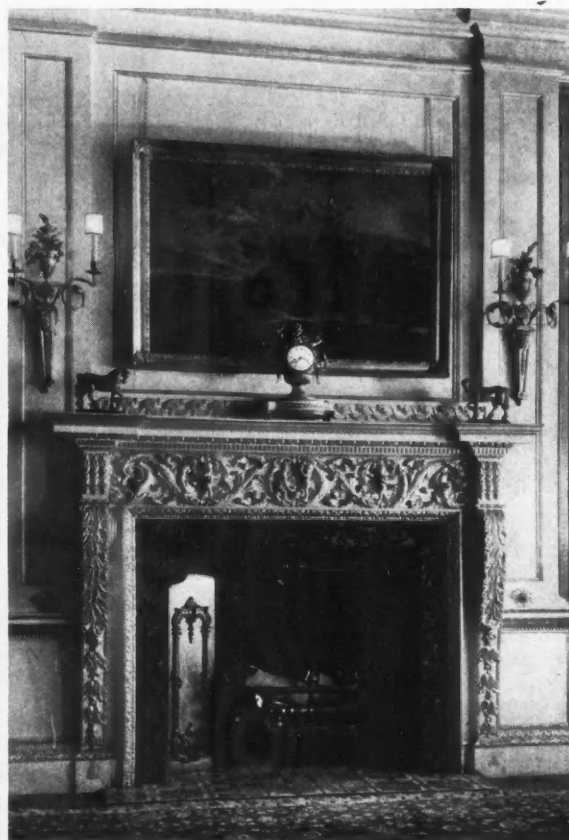
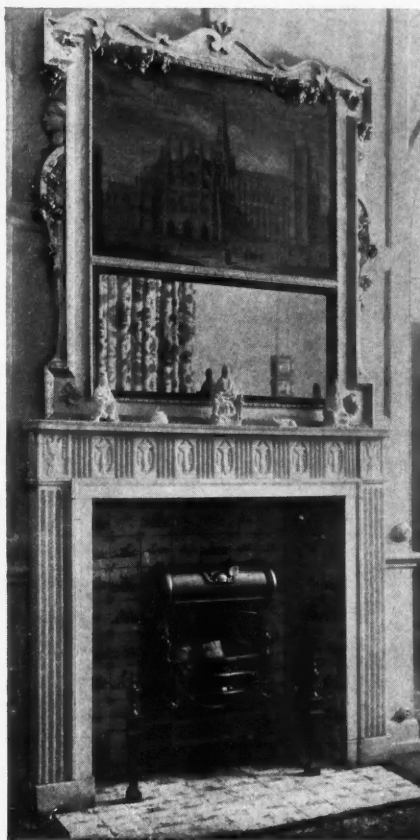
The late Viscount Burnham, son of Lord Burnham, who founded the *Daily Telegraph*, and bought Hall Barn in 1882, died in 1933, when



10.—ROCOCO CHAIR, ITALIAN, EARLY EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

it became the home of his second son, Major-General the Hon. E. F. Lawson, at present Director of Public Relations at the War Office. Here, until the war, he and Mrs. Lawson maintained all the amenities of this beautiful and historic place. So far as conditions permit, essential maintenance of the famous garden and Waller's Grove is being kept up; and it can be stated that the threat by the Timber Control to fell the Grove has been postponed. It should never be revived.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.



11.—(Left) LATE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY CHIMNEYPIECE IN THE WALLER HOUSE. The overmantel contains a picture of Westminster Abbey, c. 1730. 12.—(Right) THE LIBRARY CHIMNEYPIECE, c. 1725. Above, Windsor Castle by Dankerts, c. 1670

A GOLFER'S GOLFER

A Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

I SUPPOSE that nearly everybody who takes interest and pleasure in golf, apart from his own personal playing of it, has certain favourite players whose game fascinates him and of whom he thinks unutterable things. We discover in them some flash of genius for hitting the ball, which for us lifts them above their rivals. Those rivals may in point of winning or losing be just as successful as are our favourites, but we are always glad to see X play and we would scarcely walk across the road to watch Y. We learn by experience that X is not infallible, that he is perhaps very human and liable to err, but we never cease to think of him, perhaps unjustifiably, as in a higher class as a player.

Those who produce this effect on us are, as a rule, what may be called golfers' golfers. Their style and their strokes attract those who are interested in something more than results. There are such people, I think, in all walks of life, novelists' novelists or painters' painters, who make a particular appeal to those of their own craft. In golf an obvious example has been George Duncan, whom his brother professionals watched in preference to any of his contemporaries. His game fascinated everybody, as with its dash and beauty it was bound to do, but it had a peculiar attraction for those who looked below the surface and came not merely to see him get fours and threes, but to try to analyse and learn.

One of the players who for me held this particular spell was Rex Hartley, of whose early death I have heard with very real regret. He had great personal charm and a quick, restless, amusing intelligence, but I am now writing of him as a player of the game. The highest compliment I can pay him is to say that to me he will always be one of the disappointments of golf. His record of successes is a long one—the St. George's Cup, the *Golf Illustrated* Gold Vase twice, three victories in the London Foursomes with his brother Lister, a bronze medal in the Amateur Championship, a St. Andrew's medal with a record score, and even so I have left out plenty. He played for England against Scotland in every year but one between 1926 and 1935, and he played twice in the Walker Cup match. Nevertheless, I say that his record is not nearly so good as the game that was in him, and that given a greater steadiness and patience in point of temperament, he would have been the outstanding amateur of his day, instead of being one of the best who did not always live up to his reputation.

This is only a personal judgment and may seem an excessive one. Possibly it is, because, I admit, Rex's game fascinated me. It was not that he was a pretty player, for I do not think he was, but there was a tremendous dash about him, and he had what would be called in a billiard player great power of cue; he could do things with the ball that most people cannot. He was a masterly player of all kinds of pitching shots, but the strokes of his that I most enjoyed watching were, first of all, any kind of spoon shot hit right up to the green and secondly—I am not sure I ought not to put it first—a full drive with a strong wind blowing on his back and perhaps a little behind. To see the ball start far away to the left and then come gradually back and back to finish miles down the course was to me one of the perfect aesthetic pleasures of golf; and, moreover, he could play that shot as consistently as he did skilfully.

His rather upright take-back of the club lent itself well to both these strokes, and in respect of his spoon shots he owed, I fancy, at least something to Mr. Hilton. He played a good deal at Cooden and when he was a boy he had plenty of opportunities of studying Mr. Hilton there. In some ways their swings were very unlike. Mr. Hilton's club described on the way back a wider and flatter arc; but in the suspicion of a jump on to the toes in the act of hitting and the glorious abandon of the fling through of the arms, there was in Rex's swing an unmistakable something of the

great Hoylake player. His style was so eminently his own that one might have thought that it owed nothing to any model, but knowing of the early days in which he had sat at the master's feet at Cooden, the likeness was plain to see.

The dash and swiftness which was so marked a feature of Rex's strokes up to the green was not notable when he got there. Indeed, at one time he had indulged in rather wearisome antics, such as lying prone on his stomach to study the line. Neither was his putting a particularly strong part of his game, though he had his inspired days. I am inclined to think, though my memory may be at fault, that he was a better putter when he first burst upon the golfing world, and that was when he was very young indeed. How young I had rather forgotten till I looked up his record and found that he and his brother first won the London Amateur Foursomes for Chislehurst in 1923. That was when Rex was not much over 18, so that, judged by our standards if not by American ones, he was almost an infant phenomenon.

The brothers won again in the following year and thus when Rex went up to Peterhouse at Cambridge in October of 1924, he was already, by comparison with other freshmen, a seasoned veteran and a very well-known player. He stayed up only two years, playing in the University match at Hunstanton in 1925 and Burnham in 1926, beating his man on both occasions in the singles and being captain in

his second year, a rare distinction. After he came down and went into business he played plenty of golf, but he always seemed to me to play it, if I may say so, in rather a hurry. He would, for instance, arrive for breakfast at St. Andrews by the night train and then go straight out to play his medal round. So it was also with other competitions. This was no doubt due to the fact that he stuck to his work, but I cannot help feeling that it was also typical of a certain restlessness and impatience of temperament that was not the best possible for his golf. There was something typical, too, about the way he smoked his cigarettes as he played; he seemed to puff them faster than anybody else.

I have tried to write something of Rex Hartley's golf as it appeared to me. Somebody else who saw just as much of it might have quite a different vision. At any rate, I hope it will not be set down to any deliberate partiality if I say that of all the younger players that I have known, hardly any seem to me to have possessed more definitely what may be called a streak of genius. In that respect I shall think of him with another of an older generation, *qui ante diem perit*, Johnny Bramston. I had not seen Rex since the early summer of 1939 and had heard of him working very hard as a Territorial gunner, both before the war and after it began. Then, after a while, I knew that his health had broken down and now comes this news. It will make many people sorry, and when the little world of golf comes back to life again after the war it will be the poorer for one noteworthy figure, a little fantastic, eminently characteristic, always to be affectionately remembered.

FLAT-RACING FIXTURES

A SATISFACTORY PROGRAMME

THE two days' fixture for the National Hunt Meeting at Cheltenham formed a cheery conclusion to what has otherwise been the most dismal steeple-chasing season on record. Naturally, held like everything else, in the shadow of the war, it was practically ruined by the climatic conditions which prevented all racing taking place between January 10 and March 14. Such a stoppage at such a time was more than unfortunate. Real sympathy is extended to all who suffered by it, though, to be strictly honest, there were few, if any, who at Cheltenham evidenced the least sign of needing that.

Possibly the pervading optimism was attributable to the fact that the fixture list for the first half of the flat-racing season had just been published and in many ways exceeded expectations. For months now it has been obvious that the transport of horses to and from race meetings presented a very real problem. The edict prohibiting the railway companies from carrying them was not unexpected. The new regulations applying to commercial vehicles, including horse-boxes, added to the difficulties. To many it seemed impossible to find a solution which, while in no way interfering with war work, would be fair to all interests.

It was this problem that the Stewards of the Jockey Club set themselves to solve, and they did so to the complete satisfaction of the numerous Government departments concerned. Admittedly the task was a difficult one. Week after week passed without result. Conference after conference brought things no nearer an end. Issue after issue of the *Racing Calendar* contained no further news. The atmosphere was indeed a tense one when, practically simultaneously, Mr. Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, announced in the House of Commons, and the Stewards of the Jockey Club published in the *Racing Calendar*, a scheme that will give universal satisfaction. Once again racing has worried through; the bloodstock industry still can exist.

Succinctly put, for the purpose of the scheme England is divided into two—north and south—by a line drawn from a starting point at Yarmouth on the East Coast passing through Peterborough and Birmingham to end at Aberystwyth on the West Coast. All horses

trained north of that line will be eligible to run for races arranged or being arranged at Stockton and Pontefract: all horses trained south of the line will, similarly, be eligible for races to be run for at either Salisbury or Windsor: Newmarket trained horses will only be eligible for races to be run for at Newmarket and not at either the northern or southern venues, but in the case of the One Thousand Guineas, the Two Thousand Guineas, the Oaks, the Derby and the substitute Ascot events, the Queen Mary Stakes, the Coventry Stakes and the Gold Cup, which are scheduled to be run for at Newmarket, northern and southern horses that are entered will be welcomed at Headquarters as "guests" for those events and those events alone so far as the arranged fixtures go. Newmarket, beginning on April 14 and 15, has been allotted sixteen days between then and the end of July, with "Guest Days" for the two Guineas on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 12 and 13; for the Oaks and the Derby on Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13; for the Coventry Stakes on Tuesday, June 30; and for the Queen Mary Stakes and Gold Cup on Wednesday, July 1.

Down south there will be racing every Saturday at Salisbury from April 25 with the exceptions of the Derby-Saturday and Whit Saturday, which has been allotted to Windsor, where there will also be racing on Whit Monday. Up north things have been more equally divided between Pontefract and Stockton as, from the beginning date of April 25 at the former venue, they come off on alternate Saturdays with the exception of Derby-Saturday, and Pontefract gets an extra day on Whit Monday. Clearly everyone has been catered for so far as is possible and there should be no difficulty in transport, as the ban on railway travel has been lifted and horses will travel by horse-box attached to passenger trains on already existing services, or by motor up to a distance of 45 miles. No extra trains will be run for, or extra petrol allowed to, spectators; but this, after all, is a mere detail, as the main point was to obtain, without impeding the war effort, a sufficiency of racing to keep the bloodstock industry going, and this has been most satisfactorily accomplished.

ROYSTON.

TRUG-MAKERS OF SUSSEX

By IAN N. DODD

WHEN the day of the fruit harvest draws near the need for baskets grows. Helping to meet this need is the Sussex trug-basket industry. In a tiny hamlet in East Sussex the old craft of trug-making is still carried on. Mr. Reed and his son make Sussex trugs, working in the same way, with the same tools and using the same methods as did Mr. Reed's parents and grandparents before him.

Trugs, which are rectangular-shaped shallow wooden baskets, are made from willow and chestnut. Medium-sized trees are felled and stacked to season for a while before being split and sawn up into convenient boards according to the size of trug being made. Next these boards are shaved down with a draw-knife until they become thin pliable slats with tapered ends and sides. The slats are made from willow and are fitted inside a chestnut frame which also forms the handle.

To enable the chestnut strips to be bent to form the frame they are put in a steam oven for 15 minutes. This prevents them from splitting when they are bent round an adjustable frame to be shaped.

To ensure safe transit, trugs are packed in

such a way that they look like large wheels. This effect is caused by each trug being placed as much as possible inside the one next to it. This packing, although it appears to be very simple, is really quite difficult and requires considerable skill.

The original Sussex trug, consisting of from eight to ten slats, measures approximately 3 ft. long, 8 ins. deep and 14 ins. broad. It is known as the 7-gallon size. To-day trugs of many different designs are made; very small ones, round ones and some painted or with poker-work patterns on them.

According to local tradition, trugs originated in East Sussex just over a century ago. Up to 1850 they appear to have been made entirely to satisfy local needs, but in that year it was jokingly suggested at the inn one evening that trugs be shown at the Great Exhibition in London.

A Mr. Smith, whose descendants still make trugs in the district, took the suggestion seriously and walked to London. After arranging for his exhibit he set out to walk the 60 odd miles home again. As a result of this exhibition, trugs gained considerable publicity and to-day they are even exported, in addition to being widely used throughout the British Isles.

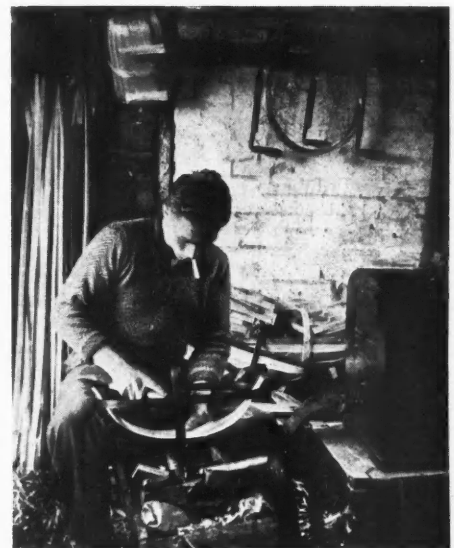
The war is having a crippling effect on the trug industry. Most of the apprentices have been called up, and as it takes over 10 years to become reasonably expert, the outlook is not promising. However, this fact has been realised by the Sussex Rural Industries Community, who are making every effort to ease the situation.



CHESTNUT POLES ARE SPLIT INTO PLIABLE STRIPS FOR THE FRAMEWORK AND HANDLES



USING A DRAW-KNIFE, TO SHAPE THE SLATS.

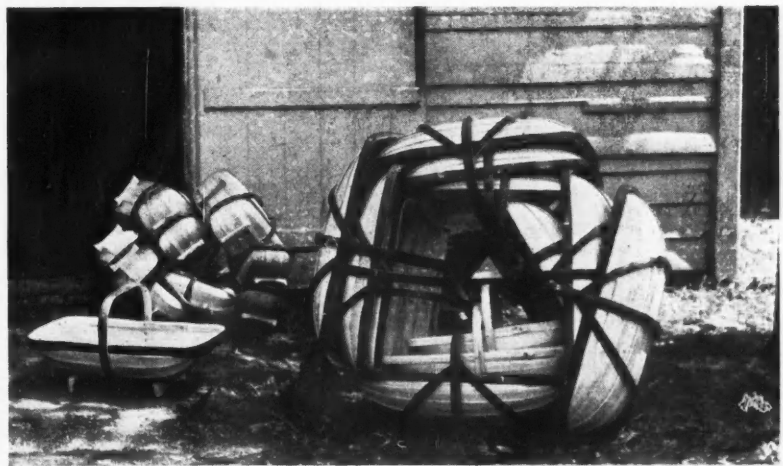


NAILING SLATS INSIDE THE FRAME AND HANDLE



MANY TYPES AND SIZES

On the left the walking-stick type—a chestnut stick inserted through a trug



TRUGS PACKED FOR DISPATCH

These bundles are small ones. As many as thirty or more are often packed together in this way

BEANS FOR SUMMER AND WINTER

One of the Essential Crops in the War-time Kitchen Garden

WITH the possible exception of potatoes, there are perhaps no more important crops in the war-time kitchen garden than the dwarf French and runner beans. The virtues of the tribe have been rightly emphasised since the opening of the "dig-for-victory" campaign over two years ago, and those gardeners whose minds are always open to honest conviction and have ventured with the dwarf members of the race and tried them as haricots, must now be wholeheartedly in favour of them as an essential item in the diet both summer and winter. In common with peas, beans are probably the most nutritious of vegetables, rich in proteins and in certain vitamins so essential to healthy growth and not without value as a protective food. It has been said, with reason, that for nutrition, dried beans can hold their own even against beef and mutton, and now that imports of haricots have been so drastically reduced, it falls to every gardener to try as far as possible to make himself self-sufficient with this most nutritious article of winter diet. Trials carried out in 1940 have shown that a proper type of haricot such as the now well-known Dutch Brown, or the white so-called rice bean, Comtesse de Chambord, will produce a yield of over a ton of dried beans per acre, and even in a poor summer, such as that experienced last year, the harvest is appreciably high. We cannot all devote acres to beans, but we can at least find room for a few 50 ft. long rows and from these in a favourable season one can hope to gather, in late September, between 5 and 6 lb. of haricots per row, a very generous return from the seed sown (1 pint being ample to sow about 100 ft.) and the time spent in cultivation.

Although runners probably enjoy a greater measure of popularity, the most useful class in this family are the dwarf French beans, which lend themselves as readily to cultivation under glass as outside. Given the space, successive batches can be sown either in 8-in. pots or in boxes filled with light, rich soil and placed in a temperature of about 65° F., from January onwards until such time as they can be sown on a slight hot-bed in a pit or frame. To follow these, a few boxes can be sown in another week or two to produce plants which after proper hardening off can be planted outside on a warm south or west border, in rows about 2 ft. apart. It is time enough to make the first outdoor sowing about the end of next month selecting a sheltered border for the purpose. A light deeply worked soil enriched with humus in the form of well-decayed manure if possible, and supplemented by a dressing of bone meal at the rate of 4 oz. to the square yard, is most suitable, and if they are sown in such ground about 2-3 ins. deep in drills 2 ft. apart with 9 ins. between the plants, there should be little risk of failure.

As a precaution most good growers place two seeds at each space and pull out the weaker plant when growth is sufficiently advanced. Once the plants appear, it is wise to keep the hoe going, and when they are large enough, draw the soil towards them on each side to support the stems, and apply a light mulch of leaf soil which is most beneficial and prolongs cropping, when the plants are being grown to pick green in the pod or as flageolets. Another sowing in June will maintain a supply until late summer and if one or two frames, originally filled with cucumbers, are likely to be vacant by about the end of August, a further sowing can be made in these to provide an autumn supply, allowing about 1 ft. between the plants and staking them when high enough. Where the plants are being grown for haricots, leave the plants unpicked until the pods are ripe, when the whole plant can be pulled up and inverted on the ground for a day or two to dry off, and then hung up in bunches in a shed where the seeds can be threshed out.

All the French beans can be used to provide green pods, when the plants should be closely picked—otherwise they will cease to bear—or the seeds can be eaten green like peas, or dried and used as haricots. There are several varieties available for use in the green stage, and of these Masterpiece, the variety favoured by market growers, Ne Plus Ultra, Canadian Express, Lightning, Longsword and The Prince are all first-rate kinds. The stringless snap podded

variety called Granda introduced a few years ago is also a bean of rare merit, a prolific cropper and excellent for use green or the seeds can be dried and used as haricots. Masterpiece and Ne Plus Ultra are both excellent for use as haricots but perhaps even better than these are the Brown Dutch and Comtesse de Chambord. White Leviathan is another good haricot, and also well worth trying is the real flageolet called Chevrier Vert which is delicious to use in the green stage or as a haricot, the dried seed being a delicate green colour and of splendid quality when cooked.

The climbing French beans can be used in the same way as their dwarf cousins either green or as dried seeds. They are less vigorous than the scarlet runner and are of finer quality. Sown outdoors early in May, they can be placed closer together than scarlet runners and staked in the same way as the taller peas. In common with all the tribe, they appreciate copious supplies of water in dry weather.

Of the real scarlet runners little need be said. Their cultivation is well enough understood. It might be emphasised, however, that good supports are essential to successful cropping, and although the crossed type of support seems to find general favour, it is not so satisfactory as the method of giving each plant a single upright stake driven well into the ground. An excellent method of staking is shown in one of the accompanying illustrations,



A WELL-GROWN CROP OF RUNNER BEANS IN THE KITCHEN GARDEN AT CORNWELL MANOR

The plants are grown in double rows and trained individually on bamboo canes attached to wires fixed to straining posts at each end



DWARF HARICOT BEANS

Pulled up and inverted on the beds to assist the drying off of the pods in order to obtain the seeds for use during the winter as haricots



A FINE CROP OF DWARF FRENCH BEANS

Interplanted with lettuce on an Army allotment garden in Kensington Gardens. They can be cooked whole in the pod or dried and used as haricots

where good stout straining posts are placed at each end of the row with wire of about 12 gauge stretched between and tall bamboo canes inserted at each plant and secured to the wire.

Seed is best sown outside about the middle of May in double rows with 15 ins. between the plants, or better still, to ensure an earlier crop, sown in boxes placed in a frame, for transplanting later about the end of May or early June. It is a mistake to overcrowd runner beans and it pays to give ample space. If they are planted in single rows a foot between the plants is not too much, while in double rows 18 ins. is ideal, and plants should be staggered. It is wise to give a tie to young plants when they are put out to enable them to climb and once they have reached the top of the stakes growth should be stopped. Regular watering is important, and if the weather is dry water generously and mulch afterwards. Apply water through a drain-pipe at the end of the rows, flooding between the rows, and apply a

mulch of littery material on the outside. In dry weather the plants will benefit from an occasional syringing in the evening with water slightly tainted with soot or some insecticide, which will check red spider and help the setting of the flowers. Properly grown, the first pods should be ready for picking by mid-July and once cropping begins, the pods must be gathered regularly. Apart from their use in the green pod stage, a few of the runners are excellent as haricots and for this purpose a short row should be grown and left unpicked like the dwarf beans, until the pods are fully ripe for harvesting.

There are several good varieties such as Streamline, Prizewinner (pink-seeded) and Scarlet Emperor which are excellent for use in the pod stage, while Monarch and Mammoth, both white seeded, can either be used green or allowed to ripen and produce a crop of haricots. Princes and Bijou are two other first-class varieties that are not so widely grown as their merit deserves. The former especially is an

excellent runner with many virtues to commend it, of which the most important is that it is a dwarf grower and can be grown without stakes by pinching the growths, a practice followed in market gardens. Coming into bearing about ten days or so ahead of any other variety, it is valuable for its earliness, and it adds to this virtue heavy cropping qualities, good texture and fine flavour. In common with other runners, the pods should be gathered young and cooked whole and unshredded, when they are delicious served with a spot of butter and pepper and salt to taste. The dried seeds, too, make excellent haricots, and, to help fill the winter store-cupboard, a spare row can well be left untouched until late September, when the ripe seeds can be harvested, while generous pickings of course should also be made of young pods throughout the summer for preserving in salt in earthenware jars, to provide an occasional delicious and most welcome dish of fine and tender beans during the winter. G. C. TAYLOR.

CORRESPONDENCE

AN ENQUIRY FROM U.S.A.

from Viscount Esher.

SIR,—The answer to the letter called "An Enquiry from U.S.A." in your issue for March 13, is that the medal is an early variety of the Order of the Bath, as is clear from the motto.—ESHER, Wallington Park, Oxfordshire.

SIR,—The answer to your correspondent's enquiry, "What is it?" in the March 13 number of COUNTRY LIFE is as follows:

The sketch is of the badge for the Civil Classes of The Most Honourable Order of the Bath. This badge is of gold, composed of a rose, thistle and shamrock, issuing from a sceptre between three imperial crowns, encircled by the motto "Tria Juncta In Uno." This badge is worn by Knights Grand Cross pendent from a 4-in. crimson ribbon passing from the right shoulder obliquely to the left side. Knights Commanders wear the badge of a smaller size suspended from the neck by a 2-in. crimson ribbon, and Companions a still smaller size by a ribbon 1½ ins. in breadth. The badge of a K.C.B. and that of a C.B. are not returned after death, but that of a G.C.B. should be returned to the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood.

As an old reader of COUNTRY LIFE

may I take this opportunity of offering my congratulations, not only on the matter, but also on the way the paper is produced in these difficult days. It is a real treat to get it week by week.

—GRAHAM PRYER, Peel House, Newmarket.

SIR,—In reply to "An Enquiry from U.S.A.," published in your issue of March 13, I beg to furnish an answer to the first question.

The badge in question is undoubtedly that of the British Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

This Order of Knighthood is in name, at any rate, an ancient one, being created by Henry IV on his Coronation in 1399. Be that as it may, in 1725 George I instituted the present Order in its original form, to consist of the Sovereign, a Grand-master and 36 Knights Companions.

In 1815, to commemorate the victory of the Empire in the Napoleonic War, the Order was divided into three classes, while in 1847, the Civil Knights Commanders and Companions were added.

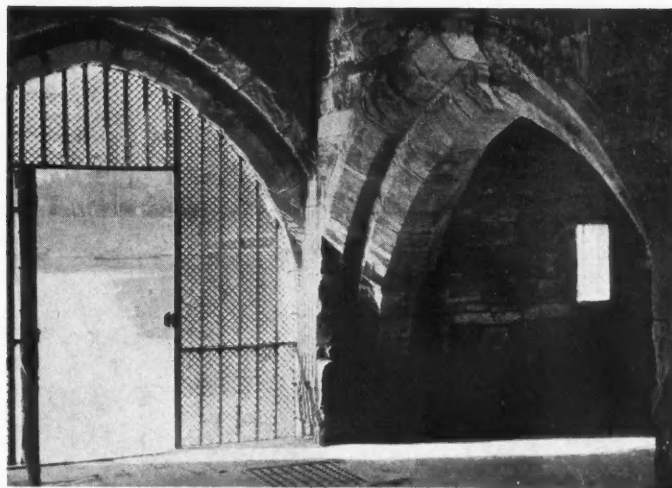
The three crowns presumably refer to the three kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland, though it is interesting to recall that it was not till 1801, on the occasion of the Irish Union, that our King gave up his supporting title of King of France.

The three plants, however, represent the rose, the thistle and the shamrock, the national symbols of England, Scotland and Ireland, respectively.—B. C., Reading.

SIR,—The rough sketch included in the letter "An Enquiry from U.S.A.," COUNTRY LIFE, March 13, is with little doubt a copy of the emblem of the Civil division of the Order of the Bath. The three crowns may relate to the uniting of the kingdoms of England, Ireland and Scotland. The remaining emblems are the rose, shamrock and thistle.

However, this design appears to be adopted for other purposes; for instance, it is super-imposed on the "stars" used as rank badges for officers.

One comment upon your correspondent's second enquiry ("What church restored by the women of the parish after Cromwell's depredations has since been destroyed or damaged by the Germans?") Cromwell was a fine soldier and whether he



THE ARCHBISHOP'S LANDING PLACE ON THE OUSE

(See letter "York's Hidden Street")

actually ordered the "depredations" or not, they are now adopted by both sides as a means to modern warfare.—E. LINDSAY-YOUNG (Lt.-Col.), Acorn, Hawley, Hampshire.

YORK'S HIDDEN STREET

SIR,—Your interesting article on Bishops' Palaces (COUNTRY LIFE, March 13) prompts me to send a photograph showing a curious link with the Archbishop of York's Palace at Bishopthorpe. It is a landing-stage on the River Ouse where, in former times, archbishops would alight after sailing up-river from the Palace. With their attendants they would then proceed on foot up the passage (shown in my picture) which heads direct for York Minster via Stonegate. To-day the passage runs beneath the Guildhall; formerly it was known as Common Hall Lane and was one of the city's most populous thoroughfares. I understand that the landing-stage marks the site of a Roman ford; certainly all the stone used in the building of the Minster was unloaded here, a circumstance commemorated in the name, Stonegate.

As your contributor speaks of the future of Bishops' Palaces, I also enclose a photograph showing the scanty remains—a mere gateway, though with a beautiful oriel window—of Bishopthorpe's predecessor Cawood, lower down the river, near Selby. Here Cardinal Wolsey lived and his arrest by the Earl of Northumberland took place here. The gateway is now incorporated with farm buildings, and the whole assemblage is known locally as Cawood Castle.—G. B. W., Leeds.

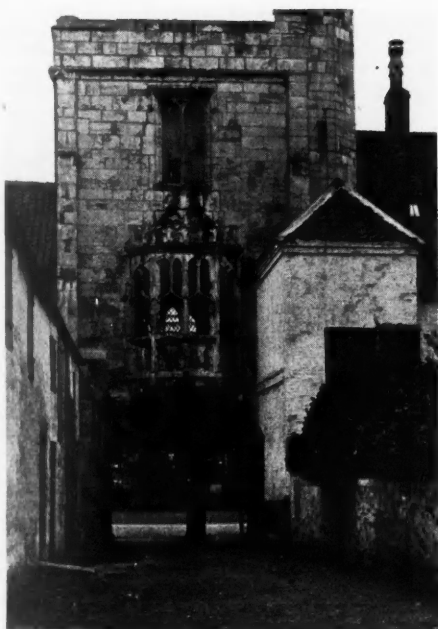
THE VOICE OF THE BAT

SIR,—With the advance of spring, I shall once more endeavour to clear

up the mystery—for so I have come to regard it—of the voice of the bat. These creatures are said to make, when in flight, an extremely high-pitched sound, supposed to be perceptible only to persons with very acute hearing. Before having my right ear damaged by the concussion of a shell during the first Great War, I possessed keener hearing than anyone of my acquaintance; yet I cannot recall, even in those days, ever having heard the squeaking voice of bats in flight; nor have I been able to find anyone who has heard it. The shrill "singing" of the shrew, is said to be somewhat akin to the sound made by bats; but these piercing notes have always been quite easily heard by me. Another sound which I have always been able to hear quite distinctly, and still am, is the stridulation of the field grasshopper; although this, along with the voices of the bat and the shrew, is said to be among the sounds which soonest become inaudible to middle-aged people.

In view of these facts, I am inclined to regard the voice of the bat as the most difficult to discern of all the sounds made by animals; and it would be interesting to hear from any correspondents who can give positive assurance that this thin squeaking noise is actually made by these creatures, and is perceptible to the average human ear.—C., Dumbartonshire.

[We can vouch for the shrill voice of the bat, having often listened to it in our younger days, though no longer able to hear it. The voice most frequently listened to was that of the pipistrelle. Apparently the ability to hear the squeak of a bat is usually lost in the early forties, but probably some of our readers may be able to give evidence on this point.—ED.]



THE REMAINS OF CAWOOD, THE OLD ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE OF YORK

(See letter "York's Hidden Street")

HAROLD, A TAME SPARROW

SIR,—A friend of mine has a most delightful pet in the form of a tame sparrow, who rejoices in the name of Harold. She picked it up in her garden and at the time it must have been newly hatched and had either fallen or been thrown out of the nest, as it was quite naked and almost dead. Harold was placed in a box in flannel. It grew into a fine bird and has become very tame, takes a bath every morning, then dries itself on its owner's hand, finishing off its toilet by rubbing itself against her dress until quite dry. It goes everywhere with my friend and loves motoring. Surely this must be a unique pet. I must add that Harold has turned out to be a hen and will be 12 years old in June next. This bears out a theory I have always had, namely, that a bird in captivity, if understood and cared for, will live longer than in its natural state, where it is a prey for so many enemies.—E. KATHLEEN GODDARD, *The Cottage, Buckland, Faringdon.*

[We think our correspondent is correct in remarking that a well-cared-for pet has a better expectation of life than a creature exposed to the hazards of wild life.—ED.]

CURRAGH CHASE

SIR,—I send the accompanying photograph as a record of Curragh Chase, near Adare, Co. Limerick, which was burned to the ground on Christmas Eve.

Curragh Chase was for centuries the home of the De Vere family through the marriage in 1573 of a Henry Hunt with Jane Vere, a younger daughter of Aubrey de Vere, the second son of John, Earl of Oxford. This branch of the family (for the Hunts only assumed the name of De Vere two and a half centuries after this union) have always considered themselves the rightful claimants to this illustrious earldom. Curragh, until its recent tragic end, had been most fortunate in the devoted care and attention it received over a number of years from Mrs. Stephen De Vere, the widow of the last of the De Veres.

Curragh Chase was a late eighteenth-century or early nineteenth-century classical building incorporating far older portions, in one of the most remote and romantic settings conceivable. I believe there are no houses, other than a lodge or two, nearer than four miles away. "Bosom'd high in tufted trees," the house was surrounded by dense and luxuriant woods, with, in the distance, the clear outlines of purple mountains. Below the terrace wind the silent reeded banks of a lake from whose very waters you would not be surprised to learn that the mystic arm of the Lady of the Lake once grasped Excalibur. No wonder Curragh was a sanctuary for poets of the Romantic school. Sir Aubrey De Vere (1788-1846) was well enough known in his day as the author of *Julian the Apostate*, *The Duke of Mercia*, and of *Mary Tudor*, whereas his younger son, Aubrey, (1814-1902)—who was born, lived all his long life and died at Curragh—was one of our greater Catholic poets. He was the close friend of Patmore and Hopkins and of Tennyson—who frequently visited Curragh, where he wrote that absurd poem, *Clara Lady Vere de Vere*—and most of the Victorian poets and artists.

The poet's library—where Aubrey

De Vere wrote so much and that *Sonnet to Sorrow* in the *Oxford Book of English Verse*, beginning, "Count each affliction, whether light or grave, God's messenger sent down to thee."—was left exactly as it had been during his lifetime. His books, his beautiful writing table made of Curragh woods, his chair, his portrait, all helped to retain the wonderfully undisturbed flavour of peace and meditation that enveloped the whole of Curragh. Among countless literary and historical treasures, now presumably destroyed, was the small gold and enamel crucifix (containing a piece of the True Cross) which Charles II, on his deathbed, handed to Father Huddleston, who had saved the king's

knew beforehand what was coming, and were in this respect more intelligent than their drivers. Possibly the story of Baalam's Ass is based on some facts of which even our scientists know little. Readers may be able to provide more authenticated evidence to do justice to the intelligence of that noble animal, the horse.—QUANTOCK, *Bridgwater.*

[Mr. R. S. Summerhays, to whom we have submitted our correspondent's letter, writes: "Your reader has evidently a great affection for horses, and I am sorry if I have caused him any form of distress by suggesting that I had no great opinion of the intelligence of the horse. I have been told a number of strange

nose? There is no bridle and it is difficult to imagine the "bit" remaining in place solely dependent on the rein.—D. M. BELL-IRVING, *Lockerbie, Scotland.*

BEEES IN LONDON

SIR,—Your recent article on honey bees has suggested to me that the following account of some bees which I brought to London may be of interest to you.

It is not, of course, unusual for bees to be kept in London; there is on record the case of a lady who once kept several hives in her drawing-room, but no account appears to be given of what yield of honey they took, if any.

A small colony which I brought up from the country early in February last year, and which I kept on a small sloping roof over a flat in Baker Street, quite close to Portman Square, increased in size to a colony on 20 frames, gave 50 lb. of honey, all but 3 lb., and finally, at the end of the year, was still sufficiently strong to be divided into three colonies. This is particularly interesting in contrast to six hives situated on the Berkshire hills, which gave only 60 lb. between them.

The London honey was extracted on three successive occasions; 16 lb. of a very delicious tasting honey, gathered almost entirely from horse-chestnut, was taken at the end of June. A subsequent extraction was made during the last week in July, which resulted in a somewhat bitter-tasting honey (but excellent for breakfast), gathered

from linden, which flowered for only a short time last year, on account of the heat and drought, but which, nevertheless, yielded about 20 lb. The final amount, representing linden, privet and, perhaps, a trace of clover, totalling about 11 lb., was taken from the bees in the third week of August. On account of the addition of privet, this was not such a pleasant-tasting honey.

From observation it was found that the bees visited all the nearby squares and both Regents Park and Hyde Park. It seemed fairly evident that some of the chestnut honey was gathered from a small avenue of pink chestnuts, situated in Hyde Park, close to Lancaster Gate. The bees certainly flourished during some of the worst air raids, but on May 11 they did not venture from their hives until 2 p.m., when the heavy pall of smoke had lifted and allowed the sun to shine through, although their dwelling and surroundings were still covered with a film of ashes.

Concerning Major Jarvis's account of the dead camel in connection with carrion vultures, although I do not wish to contradict an eminent authority, I would like to express the opinion that we are far too prone to judge the olfactory powers of animals, birds and insects by our own. When an animal dies, especially in a hot country, putrefaction must set in very quickly. Although the human nose can pick up fairly easily a group of odours known as the amines (fish-like), together with scatole and indole (deathly), substances which, incidentally, occur in the perfume of many flowers, i.e., lily, gardenia, jasmine and tuberose, there is evidence to show that a great number of other odoriferous chemicals are produced in the course of decomposition, which may be more volatile, the molecules of which, if obeying the ordinary laws of gases, could be disseminated very quickly, especially if helped by a



CURRAGH CHASE: AN HISTORICAL IRISH HOUSE NOW BURNED DOWN

(See letter "Curragh Chase")

life after Worcester. In course of time, this precious relic was given to Aubrey De Vere.

Is it, I have been lately wondering, more sacrilegious, sentimental or perhaps selfish of me, who have known Curragh, to derive a sense almost of satisfaction in the particular brand of fate that has befallen this truly enchanted place? For, surely, a lingering, mouldering end to a great house whose beauty is so intimate and indefinable as was Curragh's, is far, far sadder.—JAMES LEES-MILNE, *West Wycombe Park.*

THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE HORSE

SIR,—I enjoyed the article by Mr. R. S. Summerhays in *COUNTRY LIFE* for January 23, but it left me wondering whether his low estimate of the horse's intelligence would bring you a big post. There are, of course, many who would not agree with him.

I wonder whether any reader could explain more than seems generally known about that astonishing faculty by which horses seem to be aware of coming events of which their human companions are quite ignorant. Such occurrences are common. One of the most interesting is the story of the late Walter Winans, who was exercising a trotter in his park when the horse suddenly refused to pass to the right of a big tree. Winans accepted the animal's preference for the left side, and almost immediately a big branch crashed off the right side of it. Then quite recently we all heard a coal miner broadcast how a pony he was driving underground suddenly stopped. He said that he examined the trucks and harness for a fault, and finding nothing wrong, tried to make the pony advance, but unsuccessfully. Then, with a roar, a big fall of roof occurred in front of them. The pony had saved his life and its own. In these two incidents, out of many, horses

instances of the individual intelligence of certain horses, and the facts quoted are such that I am bound to believe them, but these are extremely isolated cases. In practically every case put forward by people as instancing the intelligence of the horse, what is proved is not really intelligence, but that the horse was doing something which he associated with his enjoyment of his stable, his food, or memory of a place where he has been kindly treated, and so on.

Most of the faults found in horses are caused by his very small intelligence. He is trying but failing to do what his rider or driver requires, and each loses patience with the other. The man becomes exasperated, the horse confused.

Surely 'Quantock' is describing something very different from intelligence when he quotes the case of the bough of the tree and the fall of the roof in the coal seam as examples of intelligence. There can be no question whatever of intelligence, surely, but of some peculiar gift which it might well be that horses have, of sensing danger to come. I believe this faculty is developed in some few horses, but it certainly is not intelligence.

Whatever I may think of the lack of intelligence in a horse, I still believe the average horse is possessed of nearly all the virtues—certainly many more than are found in most human beings—beauty, grace, courage, strength, a docile mind, extreme honesty, a capacity for tireless work—and that does not complete the list.—ED.]

BETTY AND THE DONKEY

SIR,—The curious thing about the sketch of Betty and the donkey which was published in your correspondence pages of March 6, is the contraption on the donkey's nose—evidently uncomfortable; witness ears laid back. How is it kept in place? Is it a ring through the donkey's



THE FONT AT YOULGREAVE, DERBYSHIRE

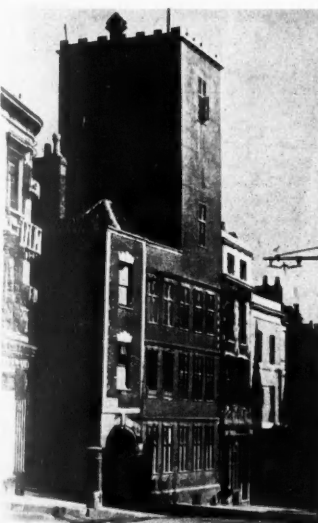
(See letter "A Font with a Stoup")

ground wind. One molecule of such a chemical would be sufficient to whet the appetite of the vulture and set it wheeling round in circles, until the concentration became dense enough to cause it to follow it up in a straight line. It is fairly easy to train insects, such as bees, to colour and scent; nevertheless, bees will very quickly discover an ordinary white sugar solution and this, to the human nose, is odourless. It is true that once they have discovered it, they usually memorise the spot by vision, but this is merely, presumably, to save time when making their subsequent visits.

Miss Forster Knight's hedgehog article was charming. Just before the war, while still living at Purley Park, Berkshire, I brought one up to my flat in London and tried, in vain, to domesticate it. Possibly it was too old. It finally succeeded in finding a hole in the wainscoting underneath my bath, where it remained all day and undisturbed. It never came out until I had gone to bed, and then I was only aware of it when I felt its spines brushing the underneath of my divan. I presume this was the nearest it could get to "scratching its back under a hedge." I found one way to prevent it from curling up was to catch it, while still outstretched, and then, very carefully, to insert my hand under its furry belly and gently stroke it.—CARTWRIGHT FARMILOE, 25, Manchester Square, W.1.

A FONT WITH A STOUP

SIR,—Several interesting fonts have been shown in your columns, and I enclose a photograph of one which I believe is unique. It stands in Youlgreave Church in Derbyshire, and as can be seen, a small bowl which was perhaps a holy water stoup, projects



SHOT-TOWER AT BRISTOL IS STILL CARRYING ON

(See letter "Bristol's Shot-tower")

from the side. This is held in the mouth of a curious animal carved upside-down on the font itself. It dates from the twelfth century and is believed to have once belonged to the neighbouring village of Elton which cast it into the churchyard. It was acquired by Youlgreave and to-day Elton must be content with a reproduction of it.—F. ROGERS, Derby.

POST OFFICE DONKEYS

SIR,—The letter (March 6) on a British army donkey (apparently thought to be unique) was interesting. A correspondent once informed me that, only 25 years ago, during the war of 1914-18, the British forces in Palestine employed thousands of donkeys for transport purposes. Perhaps a photograph (enclosed by courtesy of the *Post Office Magazine*) of two donkeys which used some 70 years ago to take Her Majesty's mails to Holy Island, off the Northumberland coast, may amuse your readers. As the picture suggests, the donkeys were primarily employed to carry the cockles collected by their owners, as donkeys still are in a few localities. The only place where, to my knowledge, a donkey is now used to carry the mails is Clovelly in North Devon.—J. D. U. W., Berkshire.



POST OFFICE DONKEYS OF 70 YEARS AGO

(See letter "Post Office Donkeys")

BRISTOL'S SHOT-TOWER

SIR,—In 1914 the 150-year-old shot-tower in Redcliffe turned out 80 tons a week, but this war's requirements are not so great. The reason is that shrapnel is not being very much used.

There are only three of these towers in England: Bristol's, the original; the London one, seen from the Embankment and due for demolition; and the other in Chester.

The shot is formed by dropping the molten lead, containing arsenic, through perforations in a piece of metal. This forms into beads underneath, and these drop straight down for 120ft., solidifying on the way. You illustrated this process in *COUNTRY LIFE*, November 30, 1940, and may care to publish a picture of the tower itself still standing.

The invention dates from 1782, when the method came to one William Watts in a dream. He cut away the floors of the tower, once a mansion, to allow a clear space down through the wine cellars to a well below. Watts sold the patent for £10,000, and the tower and well are used in exactly the same way to this day.—F. R. WINSTONE, Bristol.

DUTCH BUILDINGS IN ENGLAND

SIR,—I noticed your illustration of a Dutch inn (issue of October 31, 1941) at Kirstead; I recently photographed another such example of architecture at Asterby, between Louth and Horn-castle, Lincolnshire.

My photograph shows a farmhouse there, very Dutch in character, about 250 years old, believed to have been the home of Dutch settlers who came here to drain the Fens.

Note the three shallow brick arches round the windows, an idea often seen in eighteenth-century London.—DOROTHY KNOWLE, Somerset.

MOTH THAT ATTACKS BIRD CHERRIES

SIR,—I was much interested in your note in *COUNTRY LIFE* of September 19, 1941, on the Small Ermine moth (*Hyponomeuta padella*). In answer to your correspondent's query, may I reply that in this district—South Westmorland—the whitish webs she describes, filled with small black caterpillars, are frequent, particularly on bird cherry. Bird cherry trees are often found growing singly in hedges, and in many of them are to be seen these large webs; but what surprises me is that they appear overnight. One day there is none, the next many hedges are full of them; yet I have never observed the process of construction. Doubtless they are made during the dark hours, but judging by the size of the caterpillars enclosed in them the moths which hatch therefrom must be exceedingly small. I suppose the caterpillars make the webs as soon as they hatch out, but what a large web to construct in so short a time! As I have been unable to find any mention of the Small



A DUTCH FARMHOUSE IN LINCOLNSHIRE

(See letter "Dutch Buildings in England")

never said nuthin' when their horses got borrowed of a night. Oh yes, they'd come quiet and they'd borrow the horses to take their loads on to the first safe house of call, and they'd bring the horses back safe enough, but fair wore out. They always left a bottleful to pay you. They took the vicar's horse too, but he never said a word. Many a bottle he had, so my father did tell. The vicar used to speak of all manner of wickedness in church of a Sunday, but he never said nuthin' about they taking horses. No, he liked a little something to hearten him of a cold evening."

I have read many of these "smugglers' tales" of Sussex, but this is the first living link I have actually met.—ELIZABETH CROSS, Tudor House, Selsey, Sussex.

POINTS ABOUT PAPER

It is not generally known that most Councils have made arrangements for the destruction of confidential papers under the supervision of the owner.

Where this has not been arranged papers may be sent to Waste Paper Recovery Association at 169, Fleet Street, E.C.4, where they will be minutely shredded by machine.

Three children's papers sent to salvage equal two 25-pounder shell cups.

One average cookery book equals a shell container.

Eight envelopes equal one cut-out target.

Ermine moth in either of H. N. Southern's two volumes *The Moths of the British Isles* I presume that it belongs to the micro-lepidoptera. To illustrate their construction I enclose a photograph, taken some time ago, of the webs referred to by your correspondent.—CATHERINE M. CLARK, Fyrrer Holme, Windermere.

[The Small Ermine moths belong to the micro-lepidoptera and we have three species of frequent occurrence in England, *Hyponomeuta padella*, *H. evonymella* and *H. cognatella*. The first-named is often seen on hedges, the second feeds on bird cherry and the last-named likes spindle. No doubt the webs seen by our correspondent were those of *H. evonymella*.—ED.]

A LINK WITH THE RUM SMUGGLERS

SIR,—The other day a local public-house bore the notice "No Beer." This caused a passing labourer to remark: "Tain't much good when they does have it. Not like it was at all. Nor nothing else neither, beer nor rum nor whisky."

He continued, encouraged by sympathetic murmurs, to tell us that when he was a boy his father used to tell him about the rum you got free. "Ah, many's they smugglers that came all around these parts, round Midhurst and Steyning and over the downs. Why, my father he'd go for to get the horses of a morning to start work and they'd be fair wore out. Couldn't take a step they couldn't. So then he'd take a look-see in the manger and there, well hid under the hay, there'd be a bottle. Good stuff that'd be too. So none of the farmers



WEBS OF THE SMALL ERMINE MOTH

(See letter "Moth that Attacks Bird Cherries")

FARMING NOTES

DOUBLE SUMMER-TIME ON THE FARM

DOUBLE summer-time, which this year runs from April 4 to August 8, does not officially apply to agriculture. Farmers and farm workers are to remain on single summer-time unless they agree together to "contract in" to double summer-time. That is to say, if the ordinary working day is from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., this legally becomes 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. by the clock unless both farmers and farm workers agree to work to double summer-time. This was the official arrangement last year but it did not work very happily. There are complications in most villages when some of the men are working from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the farm workers start at 8 a.m. and go on till 6 p.m. There is the question of school hours, meal-times and so on. Still, in the third year of total war the men and their wives should realise that national interests and food production must come first. Farming goes by the sun rather than by the clock. We are anyway one hour out of joint by having single summer-time throughout the year. Double summer-time on the farm means wasted hours when work starts in the morning and unnecessarily long overtime in the evening. Now that the men are earning bigger wages, they are not so ready to work an extra long day and, as they know that work will have to go on into the evening, many of them may well prefer to start an hour later by the clock, that is, at 8 a.m. instead of 7 a.m.

THIS summer it ought to be possible to make better arrangements about the times of milk trains and milk lorries collecting from the farms. The railway companies have agreed to re-time the milk trains, but this does not apply to passenger trains. There is bound to be confusion and some districts will no doubt be found working to single summer-time and some to double summer-time. For my part I shall assume, as last year, that the Government ruling holds and we shall work from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. while double summer-time lasts. So far as food production alone is concerned, we could very well do without double summer-time, but the Government are evidently convinced that there are great advantages in juggling with the clock for ship-building, ship repairing, railway transport and the turn round of ships at the ports. All these are so vital now that agriculture has to put up with double summer-time and also a lengthening of the period this year.

AS was noted in the leader page of last week's COUNTRY LIFE, Sir George Stapledon has urged that experienced labour is so short in farming and full production is so necessary that we ought to plan our farming operations on the basis of a seven-day week. What he has in mind particularly is that men and women will come out from the towns at the week-end to give a hand on the land, but their services cannot be used to full advantage unless there are some skilled farm workers on the job at the same time to show them how it should be done. Milk production is, of course, a seven-days-a-week job. The cows demand that. At the busiest times of the year such as now, for corn sowing, and at hay-time and corn harvest, the land demands work seven days a week if every advantage is to be taken of the right weather for the particular job, whether the day happens to be a Sunday or a Wednesday.

NO doubt it is practicable on the bigger farms to work a seven-day week and give each man some time off during the week. But last summer on the smaller farms, which are by far the most numerous, the one or two men employed were generally pretty well dead-beat by Saturday evening, and it would have been of no advantage to try to force Sunday work. In my own case there was little difficulty in getting a full team to work on two Sundays when it became really urgent to get the corn crops carried. The men had the choice of a

day off during the following week, but they preferred the extra overtime money. I doubt whether any general rule would work. It must be left to the good sense of masters and men.

MILK, we know, is the first priority farm product. How necessary that priority is can be judged from a statement made by the Duke of Norfolk recently that milk consumption has risen by 25 per cent. since before the war. This is an extraordinary increase. Merely maintaining production does not fill the gap. In normal times there was a margin of about 10 per cent. between milk consumption and milk production in mid-winter. Now, with so much more milk being taken by mothers and children there is a deficit of more than 10 per cent. Dairy farmers have already been given the tip to arrange to have as many heifers as possible calving next autumn rather than leaving them to calve at fuller maturity in the following spring. It is from the cows and heifers calving in the early winter that we can get the best production during the dead weeks and a continuing flow of milk when the grass comes in the spring. It is no doubt true, too, that more milk could be produced from the same amount of feedingstuffs if all cows were fed according to the best advice. Some farmers get very poor yields from their herds although they take all the feedingstuffs allowed them

under the coupon system. This is a matter which the War Agricultural Committees will have to look into. They can get particulars of the milk production of every farm, and those herds which show poor results ought to be visited by experts who can give the farmer some advice about putting matters right—in his own interest as well as that of the nation.

IT will be interesting to see how the Ministry of Food's plans for keeping a reserve of main crop potatoes work out in practice. There is a good deal of risk in keeping old crop potatoes through to June and July until the new season's earlies are in good supply, but with no imports coming from the Channel Islands the Ministry is obviously right to try to close this gap. What the Potato Control has done is to offer to buy any farmer's remaining stocks of ware potatoes. The price that the Ministry will pay for potatoes brought for June and July delivery will be 10s. and 20s. per ton higher than the May price. There is, of course, bound to be heavy wastage in this period. A grower who did not offer his remaining ware stocks to the Ministry by the end of March will still be able to sell any surplus at the end of May, but he will only get paid the February price for ware of the lowest grade in his district.

CINCINNATUS.

THE ESTATE MARKET

COUNTRY SALES AND LETTINGS

WOOTTON COURTNEY, a secluded Somersetshire village, three miles from Minehead, contains a pleasant house, known as Riverside. With 48 acres and suitable farm buildings, Riverside has just been offered locally by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, and sold for £8,300 for executors.

Another nice batch of private transactions by Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices includes the sales of The Orchard, Stoke Green, Buckinghamshire; Little Abbots, Kings Langley, with Messrs. Mandley and Sparrow; The Grange, Woolavington, near Bridgewater; Goodtrees, Cowden, a Kentish property; and Wellingham Vane, Lewes.

Very few sales of any description have been held in country auction rooms in the last week or two. Perhaps the supply of farms with possession (the only class that seems in real favour with ordinary buyers) is temporarily almost exhausted. Two such freeholds, at Toft Newton, having an aggregate area of just over 500 acres, realised £5,050; and, at a Derbyshire sale, nearly £6,000 was obtained for 186 acres, with the right of immediate entry, at Thorpe, near Ashbourne. Lincolnshire lately shows the largest average turnover for farms, but Somerset seems to run it pretty hard, at any rate as regards the number of sales, if not at quite so high a level of prices for purely arable land.

RAYNHAM OUTLYING LAND

THE Marquess Townshend has disposed of some outlying land near Fakenham, part of the Raynham estate. The auction, at Fakenham, included 52 cottages, village freeholds, and arable and pasture. Raynham Hall, the ancestral seat of the Townshend family, was the subject of special articles in COUNTRY LIFE (Vol. XXIV, page 90; and Vol. LVIII, pages 742 and 782).

YIELD FOR FURNISHED LETTINGS

ADVERTING to the question of so-called "extortionate" rents of furnished country accommodation, a correspondent says: "In the effort to make ends meet, many tenants or owners of country accommodation have vacated their cherished houses or cottages and gone into temporary very third-rate rooms in the vicinity, or even left their neighbourhood altogether, exchanging the comfort and convenience of a nice abode for uncomfortable and possibly begrudged living-space with relatives or friends. Theoretically that entails, perhaps, only 'moral' damage, which the law, in this instance at least, refuses to recognise,

but as a matter of fact the displaced owners or tenants are suffering a real and practical loss, which can be assessed in pounds, shillings and pence. However, putting those considerations aside, persons who are accused of exacting extortionate rents may have a much stronger case than they generally present, if they will take the trouble to examine thoroughly the various outgoings, the existence of which, being so much a matter of regular and automatic payment, is apt to be overlooked."

FAIR WEAR AND TEAR

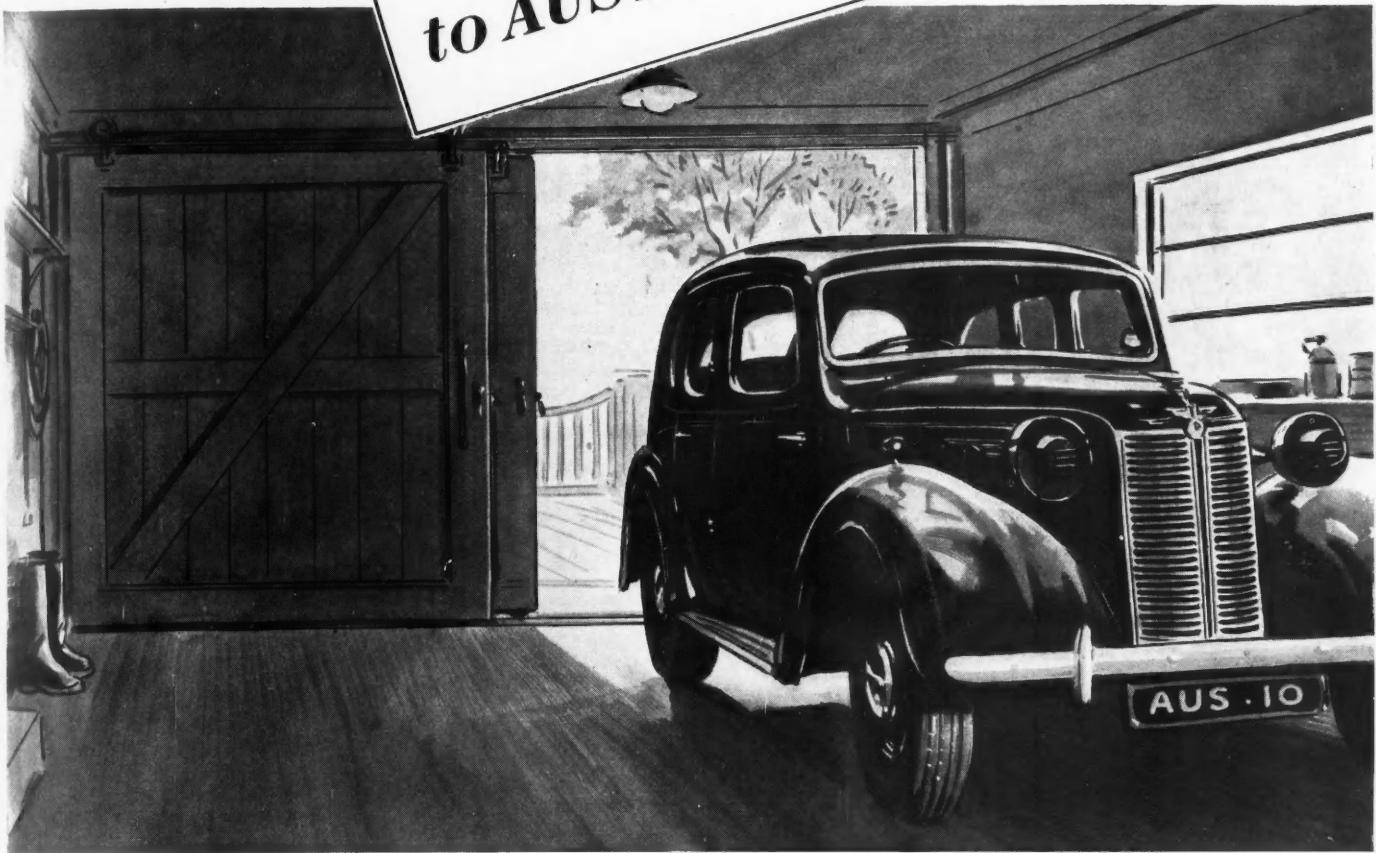
ITEMS fairly calculable in regard to furnished lettings include parochial rates, war damage insurance, ordinary fire insurance, water charges, external repairs, internal decoration, and, of course, the fee to an agent who negotiates the letting and of any advertisements to the same end. It is essential, of course, that any vouchers for such payments should be carefully kept. So much for the structure. The estimation of the rental fairly chargeable for the furniture and equipment of the premises presents a more debatable point. Beyond doubt the so-called furniture in some emergency lettings falls far short of a most modest ideal, but assuming it is of average good quality and adequacy, the first thing to do is to get a competent local auctioneer to value it, then to place a percentage on its use, and add a reasonable allowance for wear and tear, including something for goods spoilt.

PRICES OF FURNITURE

SOME of the furniture belonging to the late Sir Edgar Horne, Bt., chairman of the Prudential Assurance Company, was recently sold by auction by Messrs. Hampton and Sons. The results are another confirmation of the firm's statement, in their annual survey of the market, that there is a strong upward movement of prices of furniture and works of art. Among the lots were: A panel of seventeenth-century Flemish tapestry, 49 gns.; an 8-ft. mahogany bookcase, £25; an old English winged easy chair, £23; two Persian carpets, £45 and £32; Persian rugs at from 10 gns. up to £26, these latter exceeding the prices at which they were originally purchased; a walnut dining-room suite, £93; a modern grandfather clock (by S. Landre, Amsterdam), £35; a reproduction of Queen Anne walnut bureau bookcase, £33; a three-piece settee suite, £96; a Georgian tea-set, £30; a George III centrepiece, £32; an oil painting by A. J. Munnings, £25; a crayon drawing by Augustus John, £25; four etchings by Whistler, £117.

ARBITER.

From AUSTINS
to AUSTIN owners



NOW, ONE CAR MUST DO THE WORK OF TWO . . .

Many motorists who "ran" two or more cars in peace time have had to lay up or sell the larger or least economical vehicles. If one of them was an Austin, of course that was the one to be kept running. For now that you use the car only for essential journeys and war work, it's more important than ever to have a car which never lets you down, which runs well on almost any petrol, which gives you most miles per gallon and the least need for repairs and maintenance.

That's a fairly complete description of an Austin, isn't it!



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HOW TO KEEP TRACTORS EFFICIENT

By H. CECIL

IF tractors are to run long hours during most days of the year, and on a wide variety of jobs, they must be well serviced. It is important for farmers to make some arrangement by which breakages and spare parts shall be made good promptly, overhauls carried out readily and quickly, and smooth, steady running be made possible.

The manufacturers of tractors usually provide valuable printed instructions with each one sold. The man—or woman—who is to be the main user of the machine should receive a sound, even if short, training in servicing it, as well as in driving and making the best use of it.

A tractor may sometimes be chosen for a particular type of work, but it is well to remember that on the average mixed farm it may be needed for any class of work, and it may be employed on contract work. It is, therefore, desirable that the ground clearance should be ample for row crop work, that it should be possible readily to vary the track widths, that there should be independent brakes on back wheels to ensure short and easy turning, and that two governed speeds should provide for haulage and cultivation work respectively.

Care and maintenance cover such routine jobs as regular greasing; changing the oil as advised by the maker; emptying the radiator during severe weather and using an anti-freezing compound; general cleanliness and renewal of paint as required. In no circumstances should makers' recommendations as to oils and greases be ignored: it would be well if they were strictly followed, particularly as spares are often difficult to obtain, and there is a national call for every tractor to be kept fully at work.

It needs to be borne in mind that a tractor should not stand idle; the driver should not waste time through lack of knowledge or guidance—or spares, or fuel; that implements must not be neglected and should be properly set; that if spares are at hand damage may be repaired later, perhaps during a spell of bad weather; that the radiator blind may be used to keep the temperature just below boiling point; that it is well not to change over from petrol to paraffin until the engine is well warmed up; that the engine should not be stopped without first changing back to petrol.

The normal tractor driver can hardly be expected to do more than service his tractor with care and attention while at work. Major

overhauls will be needed at intervals, and this at least means highly skilled work on the part of expert mechanics recognised by manufacturers.

It may be suggested that efficient maintenance of most tractors could be carried out by routine, the work being done in accordance with the time the tractor has been in use. Some matters ought to be checked over and dealt with daily or twice daily, while others may be sufficiently covered weekly or monthly.

Twice each day the oil-level should be made up to the proper level, the radiator filled with clean water, the tank filled with fuel and the transmission oil-level checked and made good. Every night the steering joints, spindles and spindle joints should get necessary greasing with the gun and the air-cleaner should receive clean oil if needed.

Each week the engine oil should be changed, the crank-case cover removed for cleaning cover and screen with petrol; wheel bearings, front suspension, clutch-release arm and steering column should be greased with gun; generally the magneto should get two or three drops of light oil, and the water pump grease cup should be given a half-turn, the cup getting refilled as needed with high-temperature water-resisting grease.

Once a month it is desirable to drain the transmission, flush with engine oil and refill with correct grade lubricant. Drain the radiator and flush until the water is clear, then refill; check the oil in the steering-box and bring it to the level of the hole if necessary; drain the air-cleaner and refill it with clean engine oil; and lubricate the magneto if it is of Wico type.

Tractors engaged on agricultural work are employed under very trying conditions, and, in order to assure smooth, even running, they demand even greater care in cleanliness than the average car. The sediment filter beneath the fuel-feed tap should be emptied, flushed clean with petrol, dried and replaced, at least once a month. It may be a revelation to many people to see how much dust and grit collect, and it is as important to clean the sediment filter as it is to clean the oil filter.

Another matter that requires attention at intervals of no more than a month is the



Fordson

THE SEDIMENT FILTER NEEDS ATTENTION
Once a month it should be emptied, flushed clean with petrol, dried and replaced

cleansing of the vaporising plate, on the surface of which the paraffin is prepared for its combustion under ideal conditions. On this plate one might expect to find a good deal of carbon deposited, as indeed it is. It must be unshipped monthly and scoured effectively with a stiff—preferably metal—bristled brush. A little carbon may not greatly hinder the vaporising process, but after a point it causes pre-ignition, so that the cylinders receive paraffin smoke instead of vapour, the former having scarcely any kick while the latter is full of it.

If a tractor is new it may need the engine oil changed for the first time after three days' use, the crank-case cover and screen being washed with petrol at the same time.

If the magneto fails it is necessary to consult an expert, or the result is fairly certain to be unsatisfactory.

Close attention should be paid to plugs, on the points of which carbon will sooner or later be deposited and cause misfiring, while the points may gradually burn away. In the former event cleaning should be thorough, while the latter calls for a new plug.

Special attention should be given to the adjustment of the clutch pedal, and also to tyre pressure if pneumatics are used. Tractors may be delivered with tyres inflated above normal, and before going into use this should be adjusted to the recommended pressure. Excessive pressure causes heavy wear of tyres, while too low pressure will lead to rim cutting. Checking should be frequent.

A point of some importance in the life or extent of depreciation of a tractor is concerned with the manner of storage—for, though it is urged that every tractor shall pull its weight in the winning of the war by working full days and long overtime, there will still be bad spells when it may be "in." No tractor should be left in the open, either uncovered or as it last stopped work.

A tractor should be well covered after each day's work. For storage for more than a few days the dirty engine oil should be drained off, the crank-case cover and screen cleaned, and fresh oil given. The engine should then be run for a few moments to distribute the oil. Next, the radiator should be drained and flushed out, and it is well to drain out petrol and paraffin from tanks. After points provided with lubricator fittings have been greased the tractor should be covered down, preferably under a dry shed.

The directions of the tractor manufacturer will be more specific and technical and accompanied by diagrammatic guides to the apparently mysterious intricacies of a wonderful machine that is now often regarded as simple and almost foolproof. I am indebted to several manufacturers for pointers that may stimulate others to go further and fare well.



Fordson

KEEP WATCH ON THE VAPORISING PLATE
Excess of carbon deposit causes pre-ignition and loss of power and should be removed



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NEW BOOKS

A CHOICE THAT CHANGED HISTORY

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

IT is an interesting reflection, and one perhaps not without profit, that events which shake the world to-day may become, to-morrow, nothing more than the barely-understood core of a well-worn joke.

So it is with the marriages of Henry VIII. That elusive but none the less real creature, the man in the street, knows little of Henry, for all our vast experiment in education, save that his matrimonial affairs were what would doubtless be called "a fair scream." It calls for a rare adventure of the imagination to project oneself into Henry's time, to see the forces that were yeasting in the national being, to comprehend the hopes and fears and ambitions of great contemporary figures, to understand that Wolsey, for example, might be more than the trade mark of a brand of under-clothing.

HER SORROWFUL CAREER

This imaginative journey is superbly made in Mr. Garrett Mattingley's book, *Catherine of Aragon* (Cape, 18s.), wherein we follow the sorrowful career of the Spanish princess who was Henry's first wife, whom he loved, in the boisterous heyday of his kingly youth, to praise and pamper and exhibit, and of whom he remarked on her death: "God be praised, the old harriidan is dead." Thereupon, it is said, he dressed from top to toe in yellow, put a white feather in his cap, and revelled at Greenwich. She had given him a daughter, Mary, and Anne Boleyn had given him another daughter, Elizabeth; but Anne did not survive "the old harriidan" for long. Her head rolled into the dust less than four months after Catherine's funeral; and 24 hours after that brutal execution Henry was married again.

No: Henry and his passion for a male heir to establish the insecure Tudors upon their throne were no joke in those days; and though, ordinarily, we think little enough of such matters, their consequences are with us to-day in every moment of our lives. When Henry wished to divorce this first wife of his, and found the Pope reluctant, and decided to do for himself what the Pope would not do for him, he knocked a king-pin out of the whole structure of European society as it had been till then constituted.

There had been, till then, a power above the power of kings, a council above the councils of individual nations; and this, however precariously, had held all men together in one bond called Christendom. The personal necessities of Henry VIII, combining with the more disinterested speculations of Martin Luther, disrupted finally the fabric of this union;

and henceforth nations were increasingly to go, for good or ill, without let or hindrance, their own dynastic ways. "Modern history" had begun.

Catherine was a woman of stubborn piety. When the question of divorce was raised, she was not only affronted in her dignity as a woman: she was shocked at a Catholic. Either she was Henry's wife (for she contended to the last that her few months' marriage to his brother had been unconsummated formalism) or she had lived for years in sin; and she had no doubt which of these propositions was true. She had a deep and real passion for the Church, and, as Henry's schemes

developed, as it became clearer that he would break away from the Church and break the nation away with him unless she would fall in with his wishes, her dilemma was terrible. She was presented with a tremendous alternative of tragedy: she could retire, as asked, quietly into a nunnery, which would mean admitting the adulterous union Henry claimed theirs to have been, or she could see a whole nation torn from the Church and delivered over, as she must sincerely believe, to the pains of hell.

No tragical dilemma of these proportions was ever before or after presented to an English queen. She decided to save her soul and let the nation go. And what if she had acted differently? Would Rome then have continued to be the guide-above-the-king in this realm? Mr. Mattingley writes: "It is difficult to doubt that had Catherine acted differently, the Reformation in England would have been delayed, might never have come at all. And had England remained in the Church, no one can say for certain that the unity of Christendom might not have been saved, perhaps by a victory for the moderate reformers and the consequent democratisation of Church government in some General Council in the sixteenth century; perhaps, though more doubtfully, by the triumph of renaissance Catholicism in the seventeenth."

THE PERSONAL DRAMA

These, then, are the high matters above the personal drama of these two lives; a drama that lives a gain in those pages as it affected a nation and a woman and as it affected the fortunes of all men and women for all time. Mr. Mattingley has given us a book of length and breadth and depth—at once a scholar's book in its obvious richness of resource and research, and the book of a human and compassionate mind endowed with the rare faculty of causing the *dramatis personæ* to start up in a

their living lineaments at the touch of his pen.

LIVING SCENES

The eager youth of Henry, proud in his strength, fading slowly to the obstinacy of an autocrat bloated and pious; the young Spanish princess, loved and not without some beauty and vivacity, changed by the touch of time and the challenge of her fate to a short stout ugly woman, inwardly burning; Wolsey moving through the court, "the unwieldy hulk of decrepit flesh bearing perilously the huge, powerful brain, a demoniac and descendent of ambition and pride driving and lighting from within the bloated, rotting body": these, and such as Cromwell and the prelates of the people, the courtiers, ambassadors, scholars: all the principals and supporting characters of one of Henry's most moving dramas are here presented much, one feels, as they were when the sun shone on them and the winds blew and they moved through the measure of their mortal days.

This re-creation of times past has been attempted, too, by Mr. Sacheverell Sitwell in *Primitive Scenes and Festivals* (Faber, 21s.); but Mr. Sitwell goes further back, much further back, even to times when he may not rely, as Mr. Mattingley does, on inescapable documents, but must trust to hints and intuitions and a poet's subtlety of sixth sense.

This is particularly so in the first section of the book, called "Landscape of the Megaliths," wherein he seeks to show what manner of people these were who built the great circles, whose Druid priests lived in the dark forests, whose virgins might find their hearts torn out on the sacred stones.

A MASS SACRIFICE IN MEXICO

Within this same section he deals with the mass sacrifices of Mexico, upon the teocalli, and especially with the one in 1486 when victims, accumulated throughout a period of years, were formed into a procession two miles long. Seventy thousand perished in one sustained frenzy of ritual execution, and Mr. Sitwell's evocation of the scene is a piece of writing to which one may pay the sincere tribute of saying that it stinks of the bloody horror he describes.

Here he is within the range of the ascertainable, of that which may be checked and annotated, and he is therefore the more excitingly readable. But for myself, I thought that elsewhere he tended at times to float off in a haze of pearly tenuous words that were not exactly stiff with matter. There is too much of this sort of thing: "Dances of fritillaries and columbines. Lilies of the chequer board in tessellated gowns. Meleagris of the water meadows in her mottled dress; and the green fritillary like a dancer in the mists of morning, a dryad changed into a flower; crown imperials, who are figurants not dancers, and carry in their red or yellow bells the stigmata of tears; mountain fritillaries of Lebanon or black Kamschatka."

All these words say less to me than would be said by a simple phrase like "the fields were white with daisies," but it is Mr. Sitwell's way to wrap these fumes of verbal drunkenness about his matter where it is thinnest. Whether you will enjoy this book depends on how much of that sort of thing you can stand. With me, a little of it goes a long way.

Mr. F. S. Smythe has contributed an excellent little book called *British Mountaineers* to Collins's series "Britain in Pictures" (4s. 6d.). This collection of brief monographs is notable, among other things, for the beauty of its illustrations, and in this respect Mr. Smythe's book is even better than most of the others. There are some delicious water-colours, coloured etchings and aquatints, as well as engravings, which include some of those Edward Whymper did for his books on mountaineering.

CLIMBING FOR PLEASURE

Mr. Smythe has told his story simply and effectively, from the moment when mountains ceased to be merely awe-inspiring and rather ugly excrescences on the earth's surface, through the intermediate period when the love of climbing was often thought to be so queer a thing that scientific work was used as its cloak, up to the acceptance of climbing as a spiritual and physical joy that could be taken for its own sake.

He puts on record the deeds of great pioneers, the individualists, and also the communal effort of such great mountaineers as those who have measured themselves against Everest; and in a chapter called "A Personal Adventure," he gives us a truly terrifying account of a day in tempest on the Schreckhorn. Altogether, an admirable little book.

AMERICA'S WOMEN JOURNALISTS

American journalism has produced in recent years a body of remarkable women whose counterpart we have not produced in this country. Polly Peabody, Virginia Cowles, Martha Gellhorn—they go everywhere and see everything. We must remember, of course, that until recently their country was neutral. A great many doors will be closed to them now.

Martha Gellhorn, who is Mrs. Ernest Hemingway, was in Prague between Munich and the Anschluss, and she saw for herself what the surrender meant to a proud people and also to anti-Nazi Germans who had made Prague their home and were now handed over by the Czech Government to the tender mercies of the Reich.

She has made all these things into a novel called *A Stricken Field* (Cape, 8s.). In a note to the publisher, she has written: "I find it a gloomy book. But then I think everything about Czecho-Slovakia is gloomy, to put it mildly, and in our world the gloomiest thing of all is the way humans are driven over the earth and a man may not have both a mind and a home."

FAITHFUL RECORD

The book is all about these people who may not have both minds and homes. There is little to be said about it save that it has the sense of being a faithful record, which is to say a record of terrible and heartbreaking things. We have, of course, heard it all before. There is nothing new: the Nazi technique is standardised for Poland, Czecho-Slovakia and everywhere else. But here the whole thing is condensed within a few hundred pages. Expand the application of what you read here to cover unlimited miles and unlimited lives and you have a sense of the nightmare thing that has happened to Europe.

Y.W.C.A. calling..



A MESSAGE TO YOU FROM THE GIRLS IN THE FORCES

Women of Britain are ready and proud to play their part in the war effort by leaving their homes to join the Services. A strange life, unfamiliar conditions, new companions, hard work and danger; all these they gladly accept.

But every girl needs a home—whether her parents', her own, or even a friend's. In a recent broadcast Mrs. Churchill spoke of how the Y.W.C.A. with its huts, canteens, leave hostels and travelling clubs brings a home to the woman in uniform where her off-duty hours can be spent in comfort amongst friendly people.

In 1942 by choice or necessity more women than ever before—many of them quite young girls—will join up for war service. And so in 1942 the Y.W.C.A. is being asked to double its work for the women in the Forces and Nursing Services both in Great Britain and the Middle East.

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Hartnell's upturned cartwheel in white cotton stitched all over and left without a crown so that the hair shines through.

NEW WAYS *with Important Details*

THERE is a new look to smart women this spring, and it is not because they have bought lavishly. They cannot, owing to the restrictions, but they can have the excitement of change by adding the right small accessory at the right time and the right place. They look well turned-out because they have exercised their ingenuity, colour-sense and flair for the original, for it is the assembly of clothes that makes all the difference between being well dressed and just looking dowdy. It is the way we wear such and such a hat with a certain blouse, the way we do our hair, our jewellery, that turns a plain tailor-made into one that attracts notice.

With all this emphasis on accessories hats loom ever more important. For wearing with plain black coat frocks, or suits touched with white, there are a series of the most sophisticated of black town hats. There is a fine black, stitched straw, turned up sharply at one side, with a scarf of black jersey round the crown dangling on to the shoulders. There are pointed black coolie hats with a satin ribbon that dangles at the back like a pigtail, black swathed jersey turbans with scarves that emerge behind the right ear. Strassner has a marvellous little black hat with two tiers of fringe on the crown. Berets sit on the back of the head like a halo with a tassel dangling on to the shoulders. Debenhams are making small hats of flowers, some in dark red carnations, some in white carnations, some in pale blue hyacinths. These rest on the top of the forehead and have veiling flowing out at the back. They are very smart with dead plain dark frocks.

The first straws are large. Miss Block, of Scotts, has an enormous chip straw Breton with scarlet and black braid round the shallow crown. Chip straw sailors are slightly smaller, dark touched with colour,

chalk white, or in straw the colour of burnt toast. This is a colour that rivals white in popularity, is very chic with the grey Glen checks, with navy, black, white, or the many burnt browns themselves.

The Chinese influence in fashion is extremely important. Molyneux is showing coolie jackets in pastel linen over his plain dark reed-like frocks, coolie jackets in thin wool over matching thin wool frocks, in print matching prints. Chinese blues and yellows and lacquer reds are rampant among the prints everywhere; Chinese hats I have mentioned.

Cotton makes the best town shirts for the most "dressy" occasions. At Gorrings are clean-looking candy-striped cottons in pink and white or blue and white for 29s. 6d., bird's-eye cotton shirts, duster checks and minute dice-checked ones for 35s. 9d. These are in blues and white and red and white, with stiffened Peter Pan collars and link cuffs. Long-sleeved checked voiles with stiffened collar and cuffs for summer dinners cost 45s. or 55s. One in coral voile line-checked in white was charming, so was a duster check in browns and greens and white.

ALL the big London houses are showing one-piece navy and black cloth coat frocks, and ensembles of dresses with matching jackets.

The smartest have three-quarter sleeves, turned back, showing a wide piqué cuff with more piqué facing the revers. One of the best of the tailored frocks, a very slim frock, fitting at the waist, has a wide cross-over collar of white piqué, deep piqué cuffs on the three-quarter sleeves, and white yachts on the black buttons that fasten the double front. The piqué looks dazzlingly white against the black; the



A frock in thin black wool embroidered with white and red daisies. The front is pleated in two panels with the flowers massed to make horizontal stripes, and daisies are spaced down the narrow panel in the centre front. This is the perfect dress for the first spring and summer days, one that will do duty for many occasions. From Harvey Nichols

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(Right)
Erik's black felt Homburg with white ribbon and butterfly.

(Below)
Rough chip straw sailor, white with a flat brim and a bunch of wild strawberries perched on the crown. Worth.



Photographs "DENES"

coat frock is worn with a black pancake beret with a tassel. These coat frocks with piqué collars and cuffs are good coupon value; they do duty as a suit and blouse and are couponed at eleven as a woollen frock. Debenham and Freebody have a whole series in navy and black:



simple tailored frocks, some piped down the double front in white piqué and tied with tiny white bows, the sleeves also piped with the white piqué. A pretty suit at Marshall and Snelgrove has a navy dress and matching jacket in thin wool with revers of piqué, more piping on the bottom of the sleeves and a large white flower on the lapel.

Country accessories are changing. Cashmere sweaters are often made like blouses with turn-down collars instead of the round webbed neckline that has become a classic. Shirts in men's striped mercerised cotton shirtings are made to measure, cost round about 3 guineas and come in lovely colours. They have the new open neckline and yokes. Corduroy slacks have been in short supply, but there are quite a few again in the shops, some with bibs and braces, and plenty of strong useful cottons.

Evening sweaters are plain as they can be, in dark colours with round necks. A good idea is to embroider one's monogram in pearl on the chest. The pearl monogram is the simplest thing in the world but it just makes all the difference. Wear the jumper with a plain black skirt and ankle-strap shoes.

Gloves can be made to match white hats from odd bits of white cotton. Striped cotton gloves in the same material as the tailored striped cotton shirts are chic with grey or navy tailored suits or frocks. The gloves need to be wrist length and piped with the material. To ring the changes with a plain black dress, have one set of white accessories, gloves, collar, shady hat; then when you wear one of the draped black jersey turbans add black gloves embroidered on the back with a posy of cross-stitch flowers in vivid colours like a Victorian bell-push.

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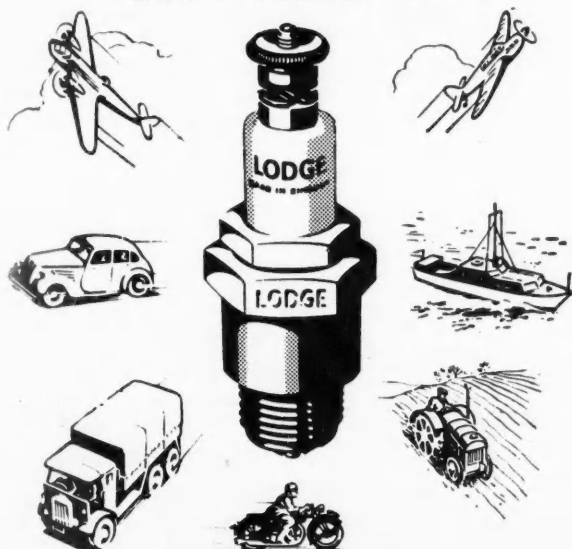


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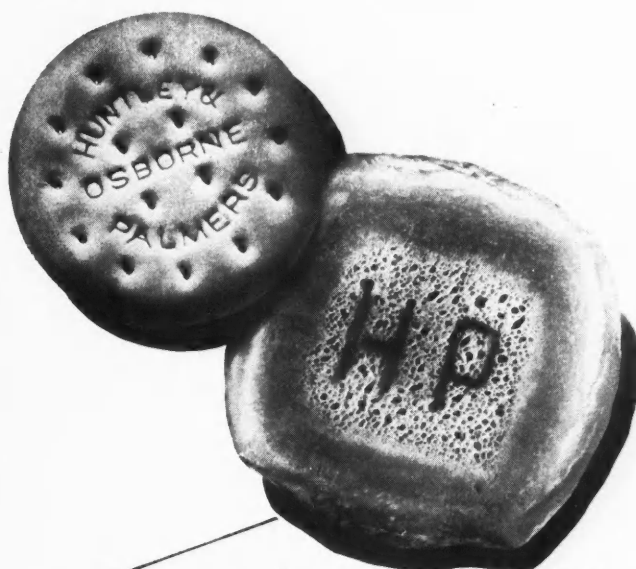
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BISCUITS**

SOLUTION to No. 635.

The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of March 27, will be announced next week.



The winner of Crossword No. 634 is Miss N. E. Ireland, Close Lodge, Ipswich Road, Norwich.

ACROSS

1. Is said to equal a couple hiding in the bush (not necessarily Australian) (four words, 4, 2, 3, 4)
10. "Send tin" (anagr.) (7)
11. French water comes after the music and it all goes to the head! (7)
12. Tribe gives the article to one hundred and fifty (4)
13. Cry that comes to table—with the lamb? (5)
14. She's reached her goal by devious means (4)
17. Decreed (7)
18. "There is society, where none intrudes, By the ————."—Byron (two words, 4, 3)

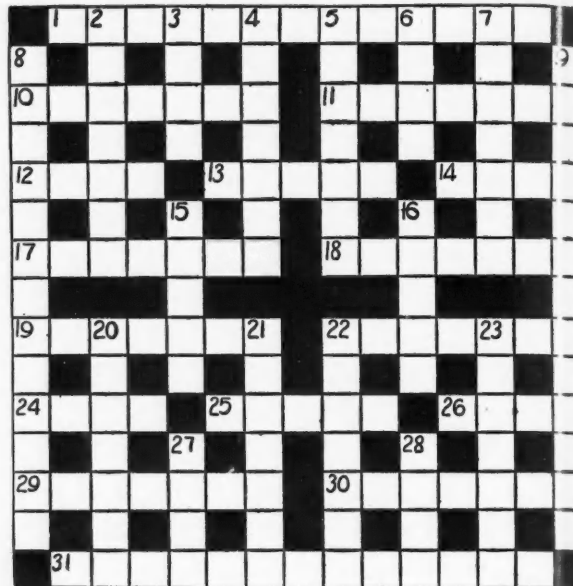
CROSSWORD
No. 636

19. Courtly, though just bitter to the ant (7)
22. Broken head and torn MSS. ! (7)
24. Wander over? (4)
25. Pillars and a Plowman got from a spire (5)
26. Check in post (4)
29. Clasp (7)
30. Jumper stay (7)
31. "And this is So-and-So reading it . . ." (four words, 4, 2, 3, 4)

DOWN

2. Its popular name is Hoosier State (7)
3. Sandy, and somewhat drab in colour (4)
4. Conducted to the bird's home (7)
5. Maternal but improvident canine fancier (7)
6. I's holder (4)
7. Sharp rocks (7)
8. The cook's landed interest (two words, 7, 6)
9. Composition of little girls now rationed? (three words, 5, 3, 5)
15. Could be least (5)
16. Raced from the tree (5)
20. Merits affection (7)
21. Hugo's are of 18, regardless of the depths (7)
22. Start of the race (there's a catch in it!) (7)
23. An Irish one warmed up, perhaps (two words, 3, 4)
27. The District Attorney joins the Sappers (4)
28. It could be mine — or yours, on the face of it! (4)

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 636.



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Continued from inside front cover.

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